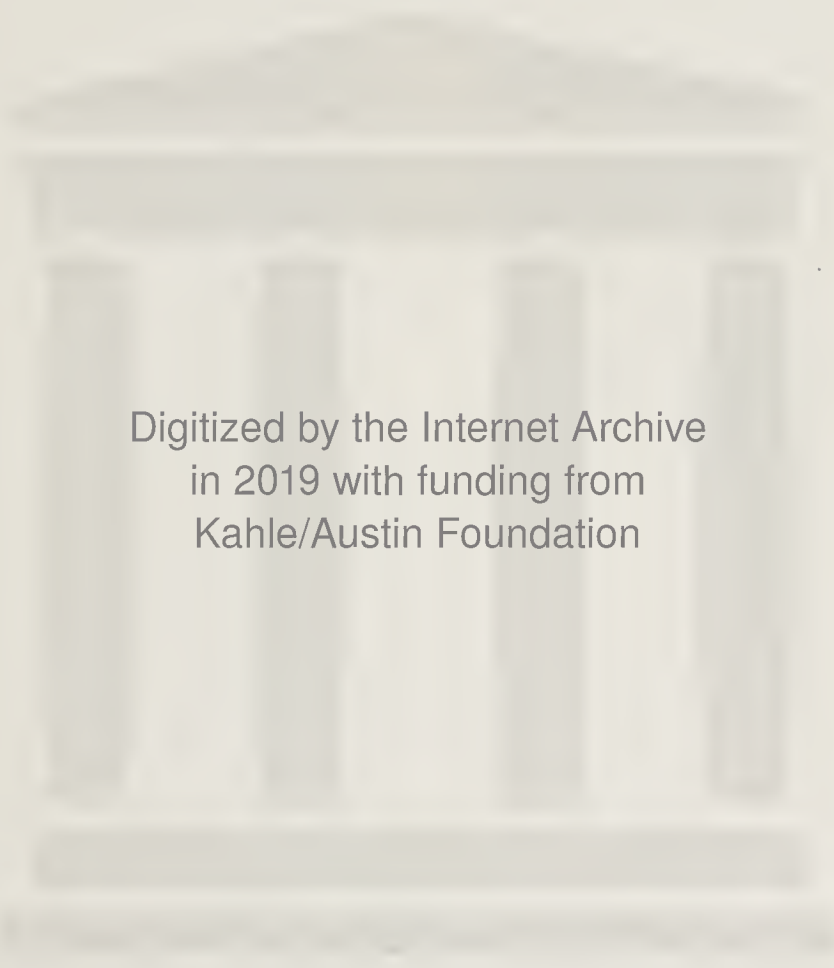


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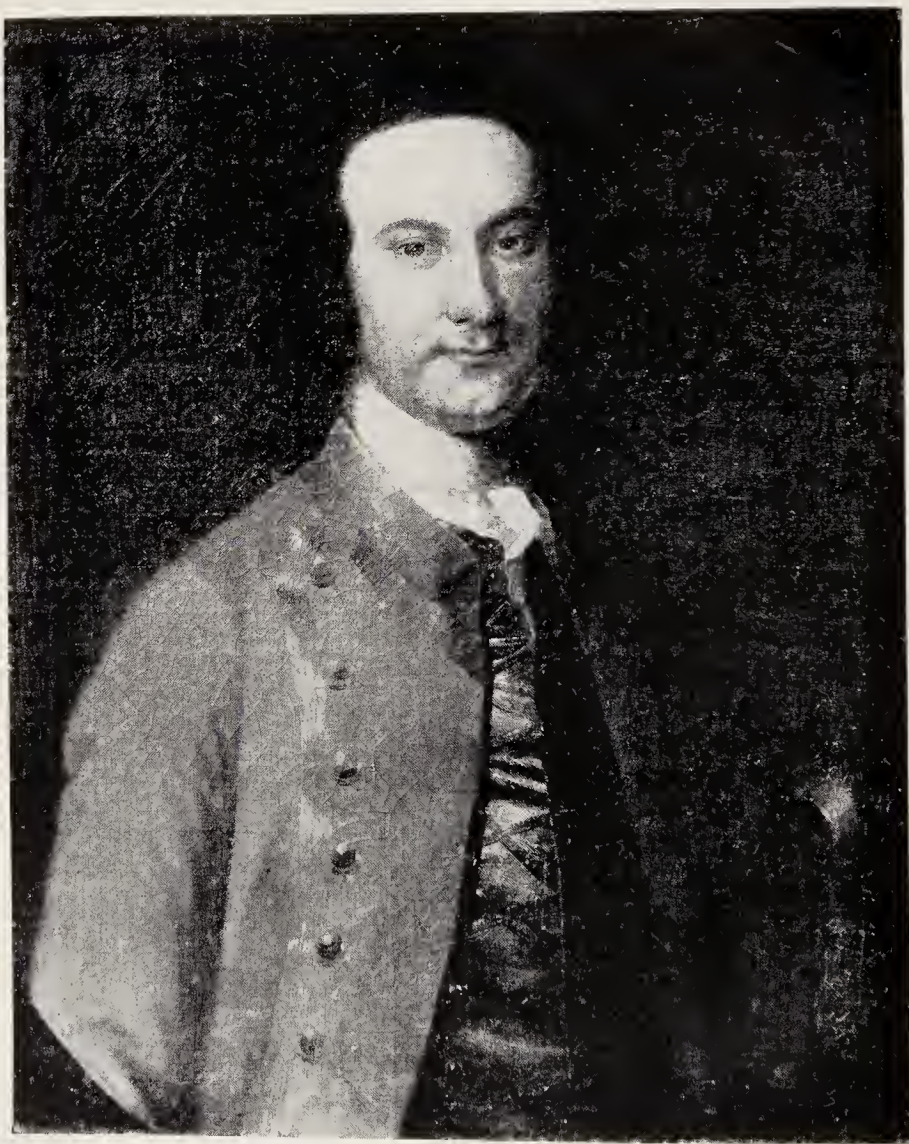


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COLONEL WILLIAM JOHNSON
(About 1750)

THE PAPERS OF SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

Prepared for publication by
The Division of Archives and History

JAMES SULLIVAN Ph.D.
Director and State Historian

VOLUME II

ALBANY
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
1922

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PORTRAITS OF SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

There are two well authenticated contemporary oil portraits of Sir William Johnson. The first of these is now in the possession of the Albany Institute and Historical and Art Society. It was obtained in 1921, by John M. Clarke, president of that society, from John Leonard of Culmullen House, Drumree, County Meath, Ireland. Mr Leonard got the portrait from his uncle who lived in Warrenstown in the same county. Anne Warren, Johnson's mother, came from that place.

Accompanying the portrait is an autograph letter (also in the possession of the Albany Historical Society) from Johnson to his father, dated October 31, 1754. As it has been printed at the end of volume one, only the last paragraph is given here:

HONRD. S^R

As I cannot wait of you myself yet a while, I send you my Picture, w^h. I had drawn four years ago, the Drapery I would have altered, but here is no Painter now can do it, the greatest fault in it is, the narrow hanging Shoulders w^h. I beg you may get altered as Mine are verry broad and square.

W^M JOHNSON

Our interest in this centers in the last paragraph. From this it is evident that the portrait was made about 1750. There may be some question as to the use of the word "drawn" in connection with an oil portrait. From this word it might be maintained that this letter refers to a drawing and not to an oil painting. The idea would be that Johnson had a drawing made from which some painter was to make a portrait in oil. The word "draw," however, was used then as now with reference to portraits in oil. Samuel Pepys in his Diary written in the century preceding uses the word thus.

Had the picture which Johnson sent his father been only a drawing from which this oil painting, which we now have, was

to be made, the artist in oils would most probably have made the changes which Johnson particularly wished to have made in the "narrow hanging Shoulders." Were it merely a drawing Johnson would have been more than likely to say something about having the shoulders changed when it was done over in oil. He evidently felt that the portrait was such in its defects in the shoulders that no one but a painter in oils could make the alterations. His father evidently never had the alterations made as the "narrow hanging Shoulders" still show in this portrait.

Where Johnson had it done or by whom cannot be determined. A careful search fails to reveal the name of an artist. It may have been painted by some itinerant portrait painter who visited him at Mount Johnson or he may have had it painted on some one of his visits to New York or Albany, and then had it sent to him after it was finished. The latter would seem probable in view of the fact that the narrow shoulders were painted without his having a chance to have the artist alter them.

There is a coincidence in the fact that a drawing from which Spooner made his mezzotint of Johnson, (of which more later) was done by T. Adams, and that Robert Adams (Adems) was Johnson's secretary at this time. It was Mrs Adams, his wife, who took this portrait to Johnson's father in Ireland. It is, however, a coincidence which tells us nothing. A statement by some that the painting was by Hudson is not supported by a comparison of it with any of Hudson's works. This painting shows none of the high quality found in the portraits done by so eminent an artist.

By 1750 Johnson had become an important personage in the Mohawk valley. He was colonel of the warriors of the Six Nations and of fourteen companies of militia. Governor Clinton had placed in his hands all the papers of the department of Indian affairs. He had built an imposing stone house at Mount Johnson and had entertained there the eminent Swedish naturalist Peter Kalm. It was but natural that he should have his portrait painted at this time and that the artist should have portrayed him in his military uniform.

The portrait shows a man of about thirty-five years, which was Johnson's age at the time. The high, broad forehead, the prominent nose and cleft chin characterize this likeness as they do the later portrait and engravings which were made of him.

A second contemporary oil portrait of Johnson is at present in the possession of the heir presumptive to the baronetcy, Frederick Colpoys Ormsby Johnson, whose address is: Lamorna, Wyke Road, Weymouth, England. This is the portrait which Stone had copied in oil when it was in the possession of the above gentleman's father, John Ormsby Johnson, who was Sir William's great grandson. About 1876, Edward F. DeLancey purchased this copy from Stone and donated it to the New York Historical Society in 1896, in whose building in New York City it still is. It was from this copy that Stone had the engraver J. C. Buttre make the steel engraving which appears as the frontispiece of Stone's *Life of Sir William Johnson*.

Correspondence with F. C. Ormsby Johnson says that no name of an artist can be found on the original in his possession. "It was," he says, "varnished and touched up (not very cleverly) some years ago. The signature, if it ever existed, would have been discovered, I think, by the artist, who touched it up."

This portrait shows Sir William at a much more advanced age than that painted in 1750. As far as it can be judged it shows a man about fifty to fifty-five years of age. If such judgment is correct, it must have been done somewhere between 1765 and 1770.

A comparison of the two portraits shows such striking similarities as to leave no doubt that they are of the same man.

There is a third portrait in oil, said to be of Sir William, in the possession of the novelist Robert W. Chambers at his house in Broadalbin. About its authenticity there is some doubt. There is, however, enough of a similarity to the two preceding, particularly in the chin, to warrant a feeling that perhaps it may be a portrait of Sir William. There is no name on the painting itself, but on the frame there is placed the name of T. Adams,

of whom mention has been made above in connection with the drawing from which Spooner made his mezzotint. This portrait Mr Chambers says he got from his father who obtained it by purchase. Further than this he knows nothing. A comparison of it, however, with the engraving from one of the London magazines in 1756 shows sufficient similarity to warrant the belief that possibly either the portrait was based upon the engraving or vice versa.

A fourth painting, said to be of Sir William, is in the possession of William L. Bryant, 1231 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. It is so unlike Johnson in every detail that nothing but doubt may be said to surround the claims for its authenticity. Numerous letters which passed between Sir William George Johnson and William L. Bryant's father show that at first the former showed no confidence in the belief that it was to be taken for a portrait of Sir William. Then by one of those common episodes in self persuasion he became convinced from a series of doubtful tales that it was truly an authentic portrait.

A wood engraving was made of it and is signed T. Cole. A copy of the engraving hangs in the museum at Letchworth Park, New York.

There are four contemporary engravings of Sir William. One of these published in 1756 is a mezzotint by Spooner from a drawing by T. Adams. Of the latter artist this is the only known mention in the history of artists, but Spooner is a well known engraver. The other three engravings are from London magazines. There is a fifth engraving by Bartolozzi, but it is sometimes entitled Sir William Johnson, and sometimes Sir John Johnson. There is a possibility that it represents neither and is in reality a portrait of Colonel Guy Johnson. Fiske in his *American Revolution* (1896 edition, 1:304) says that General De Peyster, who originally thought of this portrait as one of Sir John Johnson, told him that he had a "suspicion" that it was a portrait of Guy Johnson.

JAMES SULLIVAN

State Historian

AUTOGRAPHS FROM VOLUME II

Lieut. Johnson

Gow

Seth Tomeroy

James Abieromb

Jelles Fonda

Wm. Cochrane

William Denny

London

Richard Peters

Jonathan Bayly

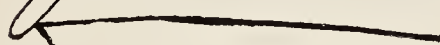
Isbrand G. Van Schuyck

Nathan Whiting

Robert Rogers

John Pitkin

John: H. Sydney

John Butler


Conrad Weiser

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON PAPERS

FROM TIMOTHY RUGGLES

A. D. S.

Sept^r. 3rd. 1755

An appointment of a Regimental Court Martial for y^e Immediate Tryall of Such Crimes as have been Committed by any person in My Regiment & Cognizable before a Regimental Court Martial

Cap^t. Jo^s. Whitcombe President

Members { Lieut Jn^o. Stebbins
Lieut. Thompson
Ensign Jn^o. Tisdale
Ensign Daniels

and of your Doings herein you are to make Return Given
under my hand at Lake St. George

TIM^o. RUGGLES

COURT MARTIAL

Headquarters September y^e 3 1755

The Proceedings of Court Martial held here this day in order for to try any prisoner In Col Rugles Regiment that shall be found guilty and there being none apprehended In s^d Regiment [] found guilty of any Crime So the¹

INDORSED: Report of Reg^t. Court Martial appointed by Col. Ruggles.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE SEPTEMBER 3

A paper which followed this in the Johnson Calendar, and was destroyed in the fire, comprised undated information given by Daniel Claus regarding efforts of Shirley's agents to prevent Indians from joining John-

¹ Remainder of manuscript illegible.

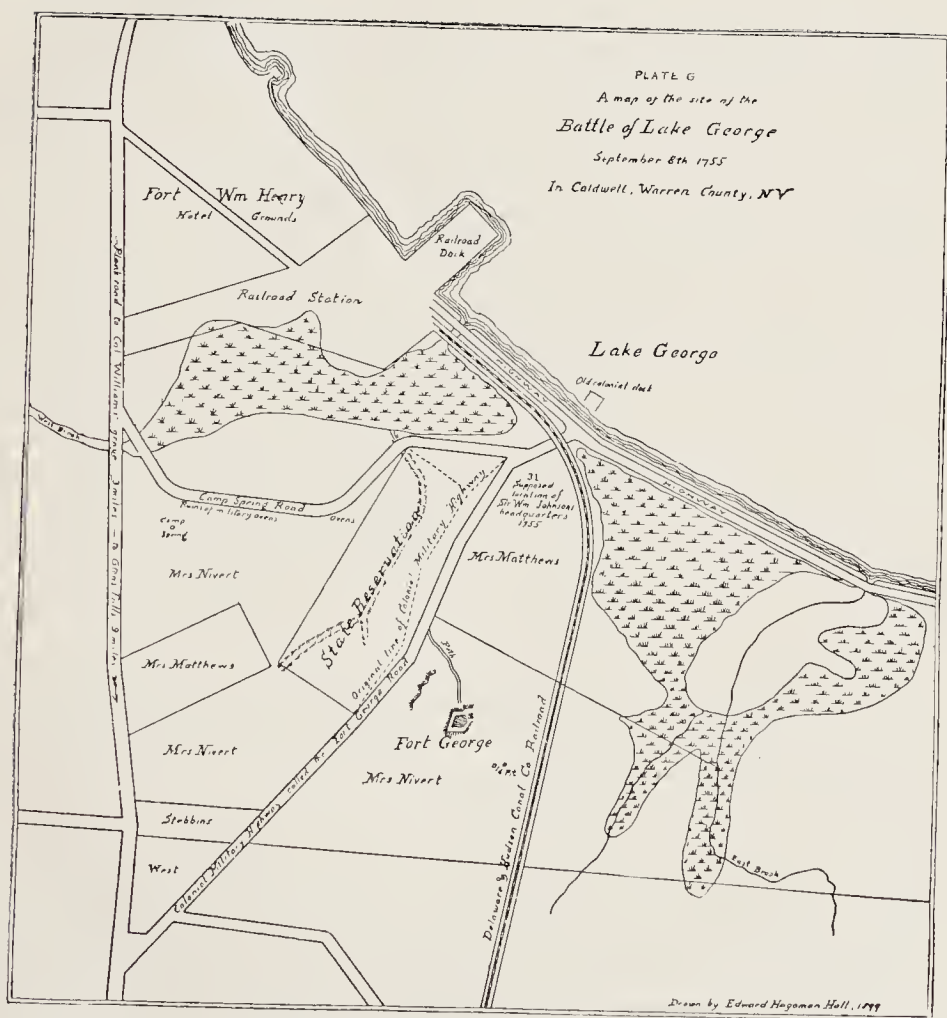
son and action of Hendrick and others to defeat their influence. This was followed by Johnson's letter of September 3d to the lords of trade on the Caghnawagas, Shirley's agents among the Indians, the writer's desire to be independent of Colonial governors and progress of the expedition (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:684-89; Q, 2:399-401, and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:993-97). Not destroyed.

DISPUTES BETWEEN SHIRLEY AND JOHNSON¹

September 3-October 5, 1755

There is no Letter from General Johnson to the Secretary of State, but the Board of Trade have transmitted one to them, dated the 3^d. of Sep^r. full of Complaints against Governor Shirley who has, as General Johnson says endeavoured to do him all the Prejudice He can with the Indians, that He has represented him as an Upstart, entirely dependant upon him, & that He furnishes him with all the Money & Presents for the Indians, & that He can pull him down, when He pleases. That Mr Shirley employs one Lydius to the Indians who is a Person odious to them; that Mr Shirley in order to detach the Indians from Mr Johnson, has made them such large Offers, that Mr Johnson has been obliged to yield to very unreasonable Demands from them. In support of this, Mr Johnson incloses the Speech of the Great Mohock Indian, relating what Mr Shirley had said to Them. General Johnson thinks these Proceedings contrary to the Commission given him by General Braddock by which he was appointed sole Superintendent of the Indian Affairs. That He cannot fullfill the King's Expectations, if his Proceedings are to be controullled by a Governor, and unless a certain Fund is appointed, & confided to his Disposal, for that Service, & unless He is put on that Footing, He desires to decline the Charge — The only Reason he can guess for Mr Shirley's Conduct is, his not having provided 100 Indians to escort him to Oswego, which the Indians said was unnecessary, as the Road lay thro' their Country. There is no Letter from Mr Shirley, on this Subject,

¹ In British Museum, Additl. Mss. 33.029. fo. 215 (Newcastle Papers)



SURVEY FOR THE STATE RESERVATION AT LAKE GEORGE

but, in one of the 5th. Oct^r: on the Action at Lake George, He refers to Copies of two Letters to General Johnson, for his Sentiments of his Conduct, and says, *He dont yet certainly know, what the Issue of that Expedition will be this Year, but has reason to think it will be dissatisfactory to all the New England Colonies as well as Himself.*¹

In Mr Shirley's Letter to General Johnson, He does not make any particular Accusation, but seems to hint, that He has taken a wrong Road to Crown Point, That the Fort he is building at Lake George is useless,—presses him to go on, and by all means endeavour to make Himself Master of Tironderoge — Thinks He must have sufficient Force for that purpose — That his Account of the Strength of the French is aggravated — and differs from him in his opinion of the Conduct of the French in the late Action.

INDORSED: Disputes between
Governor Shirley
& General Johnson
Sep^t, 3²

BENNING WENTWORTH TO SIR THOMAS ROBINSON³

Portsmouth September 3^d. 1755

SIR

That His Majesty may be advised Of the progress of the Provincial forces Employed for removeing the Encroachments made by the French at Crown point, I Think it my duty to Transmitt a Copy of Major General Johnson's letter to me of the

¹ Italicized matter was underlined in the original.

² The transcriber in London states that the date is in the hand of Newcastle, but correspondence of a later date is embraced by this review.

³ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 16, London, England.

24th of August, from the Camp, on Hudson's River, also a Copy of the result of a Council of war held at the same place, on the further proceeding of the Army, by which it Will appear that a reinforcement is generally advised to, which I have urged on the Assembly of this Province to provide For, But the Council and Assembly are Averse at present to any Augmentation Alledging that the regiment In the service of this Province Consisting of 500 men is Equal to 5000 men in The Service of the Massachusetts Government, and at present that Government Has but 1500 men in this Expedition.

General Johnson's demand For an Additional force at this late hour, makes me doubtfull of our Success, The Defeat of the late General Braddock on the Ohio, I am apprehensive makes General Johnson the more Cautious, which at this Critical Con-juncture Is absolutely necessary, for should Governor Shirley meet with a defeat at Niagara and General Johnson at Crown point, it will so dishearten our Indians, and so greatly Animate those In the French interest, that there would Be the greatest danger of the Indians of the Six Nations and those in friendship With them going over to the French — For this reason only the greatest Caution Is necessary to be used at this time, and Unless we are sure of haveing a Superiour force, it will be safer to retreat than To risque a defeat — I am With all possible respect

Sir,

Your most faithfull Servant

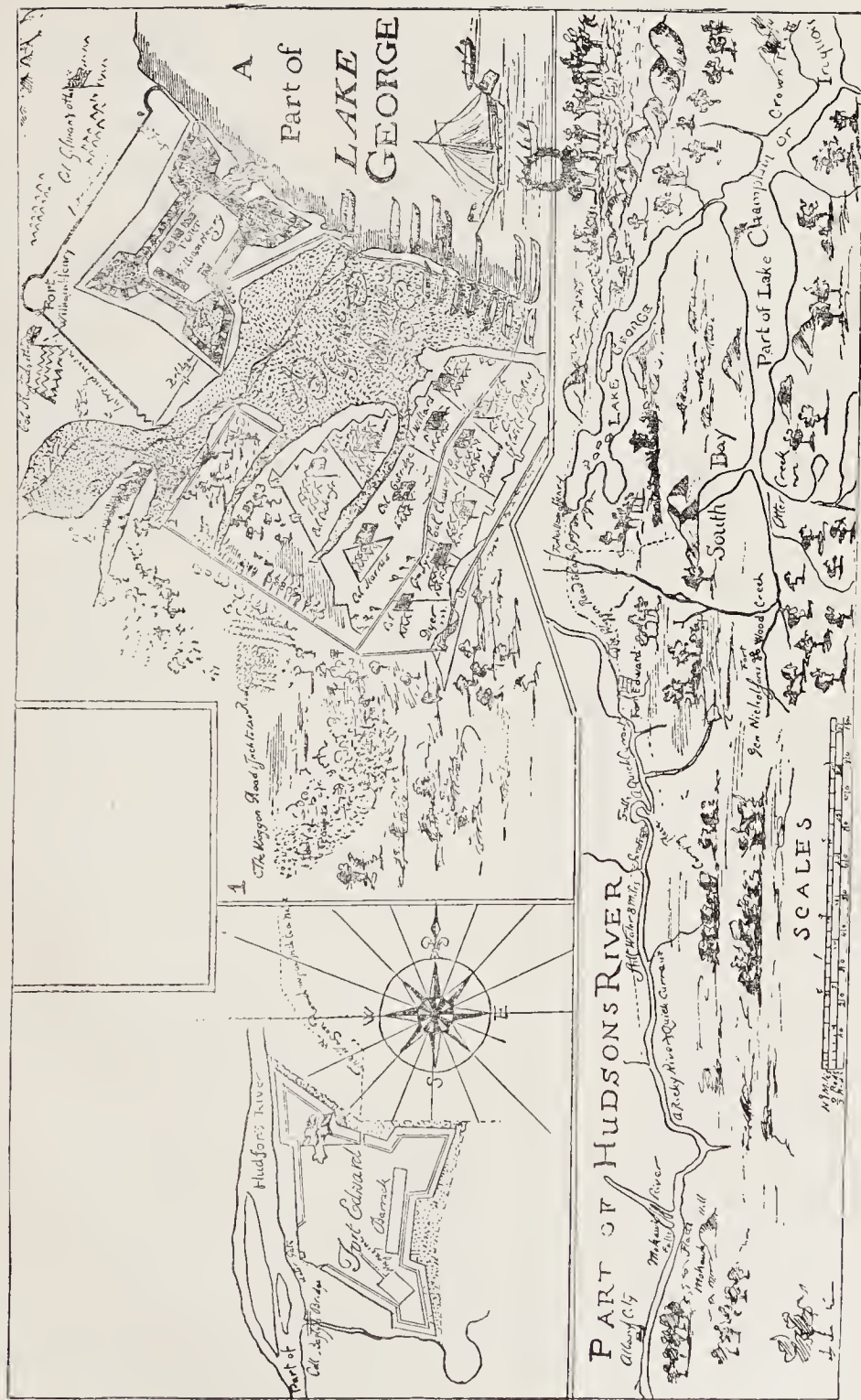
B. WENTWORTH

The Right Hon^{ble} SIR THOMAS ROBINSON —

INDORSED: New Hampshire Sep^r. 3^d. 1755. 1/2

Gov^r. Wentworth.

R Oct^r. 6th.



CONTEMPORARY MAP OF THE BATTLE OF LAKE GEORGE CAMPAIGN

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

4 Sep^r. 1755

[SIR]

As the Express sent [] some urgent Business of his own has [] Hans to forward some dispatches to General [] some to yourself and General Lyman, I thought it might be proper to acquaint you with it, least this delay might otherwise be prejudicial to that Gentleman. I am Sr.

Your most obed^t. humble Servant

G^w BANYAR

His Excy Sr. Charles Hardy arrived here the 2^d. Instant about 4 P^t Mer. and landed at 12 the next day under the discharge of the Cannon & received by the L^t. Gov. the Council Corp^r. & principal Gentlemen the Militia being under arms. I believe him to be that amiable Person he is represented to be. There's no News after a Passage of ten Weeks. The doctor writes. The Rope is sent

ADDRESSED: To Major General Johnson
at the Camp at Lake S^t. Sacrament

INDORSED: Albany 7 Septem^r 1755
Rec^d & forwarded by Sir
Your most humble Serv^t

JA STEVENSON

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

*Df.*¹*Camp at Lake George 4 Sep^r. 1755*

SIR

I arrived here with about 1500 Men the 28<th> past in the Evening, all was thick Wood, not a Foot of Land cleared, Our time since has been chiefly spent in opening the Ground about us & forming some regular kind of Encampment building temporary Store houses for Provisions &c. these Matters are now nearly accomplished. We have fixt on a Spot for a Fort² it is clearing & near 400 Men employed, who I hope in a few days will have the Fort in great forwardness & that it will be put into a respectable Condition before the Army leaves this place.

I find since I left the Great Carrying Place the Works there have advanced but slowly — the Men murmur at being employed in these Matters & many of the chief officers do not seem very sanguine about them, indeed that due Subordination w^{ch} is necessary in Military Life seems very much wanting among us. I daily remonstrate on this Point & do all in my power to support it, but the Causes I fear lay too deep & are too general to be remedied.

There are now at the Great Carrying place 5 Companys of Col. Cockrofts Reg^t. & the New Hampshire Reg^t. By a Letter last night from them, I find they have Quarrelled with each other that blows have past & some are wounded.

The New York Companies are in a Mutinous Condition for want of Pay & threaten to go off, nay I think a large Body did attempt it. When we left Albany Col. Cockcroft applied to me

¹ By W^raxall.

² See Samuel Blodget, *The Battle Near Lake George*, p. 5.



SITE OF JOHNSON'S FORTIFIED CAMP AT LAKE GEORGE

& told me that he proposed his Reg^t. should be paid up to the time they were to march & then Issue no more pay till their return — As I did not conceive they should have any use for money in the uninhabited Woods I thought the thing right & reasonable & gave my Consent. But I find not only the Companys there but the 3 Connecticut Companies here insist upon having their Pay agreeable to the Act of Assembly, that is Monthly; the Companies here threatened to go off if they were not paid — I took measures to quiet them, but was obliged to give one of the Captains leave to go to Albany in order to get his Pay & I have wrote Col. Cockcroft that as the Act was positive & left nothing to Circumstances, I thought he must direct the pay Mas^{rs}. either to come <or send> some Person for 'em to Issue the pa<y. In short> there is not through ¹ the Troops <in gener>al due Subordination kept up. <The of>ficers are most of them low weak People, <who have nei>ther the ability nor Inclination to maintain a necessary Superiority. some of them I believe are sorry Fellows & rather join with than restrain their Men. I have this morning ordered one Cap^t Hall of the 3 Connecticut Companies into Confinement upon suspicion of being concerned with one of his People in selling the Store Rum to the Indians. The Indians are perpetually Drunk, their Insolence is scarce to be born at these times — they give me not a Moments rest or leisure. However I send Scouting Parties daily out every way. By the last Scouts from Tionderogue, the French had thrown no Works up there, they discovered a Party of the Enemy of about 20 thereabouts. I have ordered the Battoes up from the Carrying Place or at least 200 as soon as possible when they arrive & put in order, if I get no Intelligence to prevent it, I propose to set off with a part of the Troops & take post there. We are greatly distressed for want of Waggon's many have deserted the Service, Numbers of Horses tired — so that without a fresh Recruit we

¹ Throughout.

shall I fear be fatally delayed. I have wrote & given Orders on that head.

I have with me or at least there has joined me ab^t. 250 Indians they seem hearty & well disposed — Severall more daily expected they are very uneasy about the Cagnawagas & have sent another w^{ch} is to be the last Embassy to them, & I hope to have the result in a day or two.

<What with the> trouble I have with the Indians & that disorderly management there is among the Troops, I am almost distracted. I have neither rest night nor day, nor a comfortable thinking hour to myself. Our Sick increase our Men impatient to have the affair ended & most of the officers little better, yet they will not carry things on with that order & Application necessary to forward our Proceedings. I would exert Authority but I cannot be sufficiently seconded.

If your honour finds this Letter a confused one, my Circumstances must be my Apology. I write by bitts & Scraps, Interruptions w^{ch}. I cannot prevent come upon me, & Matters w^{ch}. must not be delayed interfere.

A Scouting Party of Indians yesterday discovered a tract about as they thought 7 or 8 days old of 150 or 200 French & Indians w^{ch}. led directly to Scenectady, I immediately sent an Express there & to Albany to put them on their Guard. I have this day Sent a party of our Forces with some Indians to intercept them if possible. We have no Interruption from the Enemy. General Lyman had one Man Scalped & 1 taken Prisoner ab^t. 3 Miles from Great Carrying Place; they were looking for Cattle belonging to the Connecticut Troops.

With the Indian Scouts & if the Sentries & Guards will do their Duty I am not affraid of any Insult from the Enemy — but God help us our Sentries I fear a ¹ diligent. I have

¹ Writing illegible.

ordered Patrolls every half hour round our whole Encam<p'ts> during the Night & if my Orders are observed, I do not dread a Surprise.

This Lake called Lake St. Sacrament by the French, I have called Lake George not only in honour to his Majesty but to assertain his Dominion here.

To the Hon^{ble} JAMES D<ELANCEY> Esq^r

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Generals Letter to Gov^r.

DeLancey

4 Sep^r. 1755

TO THOMAS POWNALL

Df.¹

<Camp at Lake George 4 Sep^{tr} 1755>

DEAR SIR

I have lately received a long <Letter from General> Shirley tis in Answer to one I wrote him, & if I <had time> to send you the Copy of it, you would only be con<fused un>less I would also send you a former I recd from him <& my> answer w^{ch} are at Albany. This Letter is wrote with all <the> Insolence of a Man drunk with power, envenomed by Malice & burning with Revenge — his Arguments are Weak & confused they bear the evident Marks of Passion overruling Reason — he asser<ts> Facts notoriously false, & attempts tho very clumsily, artfully to pervert all my Actions & Arguments — in short the Attorney General appears quite rash. I have wrote him, but told him I believed his, & I am sure my time would not allow me to give a proper answer to his Letter w^{ch} is all the notice I have taken of it. however I perceive plainly from the Stile, Temper & Character of the Man that I may expect every thing that can be

¹ By Wraxall.

executed by a bad Man abandoned to passion & enslaved by resentment. I have therefore in defence of my Character, w^{ch} is all I am truly anxious about thought it a prudent step to write the Letter I herewith send you to the Lords of Trade ¹—after perusal you will please to Seal & forward it, and if truth & Prudence permit, I wish it might carry with it your Sentiments in a general way.

I am under a good deal of Anxiety lest my future Sch<emes> with regard to the Expedition, should be too much retarded & <even> defeated, by the want of Waggon & Provisions falling short. I have done all in my power to prevent both. There is no due Subordination among the Troops, & the officers with very few Exceptions a set of low lived Ignorant People, the Men lazy, easily discouraged by Difficulties, & from the popularity of their Gov^{ts} neither accustomed or disposed to obedience.

However I am pushing all I can to embark with a part of the Troops in order to take post at Tionderogue provided the Scouts I have out dont discover a Strength there too much for us.

Great numbers of our Waggoners have deserted, some of them coming up threw the Shot they were loaded with into the Woods, they have plundered the Provisions they brought in their Waggon, in short they are a set of great Rascals.

The Specious Patriotism of the Albanians in helping forward the first Division, so splendidly set <forth in the News papers, was truly> thus. Intimations <were given by a Friend of theirs about> Gov^r. Shirley that there <would be a general press> for Steersmen &^c. to help him for<ward to Oswe>go to shun this as the greater Evil, a consultation <was> held & the patriot Scheme aforementioned agreed on by w^{ch} means the dreaded Press was defeated. In no respect, whatsoever without pay did

¹ See reference above to letter of September 3 to lords of trade.

any of the Inhabitants help forward the other Divisions, but on the Contrary when Waggon's were wanted hid them & drove away their Horses to the Delay & distress of the Service —All their Generosity & public spirit remains as much a secret as ever it did.

The Paragraph in the News Papers about the Cartridges at Saraghtoga, I have inquired into & is in every part a gross & impudent Falsehood.

Both writers in & Printers of New Papers take Liberties at this Juncture, w^{ch} are not only founded in Impudence & Ignorance of the true state of things, but are or may be very injurious to the public Good. party views may justify it to themselves yet in sober Truth they ought to have their Ears Cropt for it. This is not enjoying the Liberty, but proving the Licentiousness of the Press.

I wish you would convey without any authors name the Substance of these 4 last paragraphs into Franklin's Paper¹—You will oblige a Number of officers here & make an offering to truth & justice.

I inclose you a Speech made by the Indians of the Upper Mohock Castle² to me in the presence of a number of the Chief officers of these Troops, it came from their own free will without my even expecting it, I have such another at Albany from the lower Castle & Authentick Papers to prove many other Scandalous Proceedings of Gov^r. Shirley & his Agents.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: General's Letter to M^r
Pownall 4 Sep^r 1755

¹ The Pennsylvania Gazette.

² Hendrick's speech at a meeting of officers and Indians at Lake George on September 4th, repeating words of Shirley to the Mohawks, is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:998-99.

LIST OF FRENCH POSTS¹

Quebec	350
Trois riviere	120
Montreal	400
Niagara	300
Lapointe	300
Cataraquois	50
Lagalette	50
St. Jean	40
La belle riviere	300

 1910

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.

<Headquarters: Camp at Lake George Fryday,
5 Sep^r. 1755. A. M.>

At a Council of War <held by General Johnson>

Pres^t.

The General

Maj^r. General Lyman

Col. Ruggles

Col. Titcomb

Col. Williams

Lieut Col. Whiting

Lieut Col. Cole

Maj^r FitchCapt. Wraxall Sec^{ry}

<1> Arcle. The General desired the Opinion of the Council about officers & Men to Garrison the Fort at the aforesaid Camp.

¹ The numbers in this list apparently show the strength of certain forces. It is entered in the Johnson Calendar as belonging to the early part of September.

<2d>

The General Acquainted the Council that tho he had issued strict orders against selling Rum to the Indians, yet he found they were not obeyed, for that Rum was constantly & plentifully sold to the Indians who were in great numbers daily made Drunk thereby & that he apprehended some very fatal consequences would arise from this Disobedience to orders & that he judged the Matter very worthy of being considered by the Council, that if they could, they might give him their Opinion what further Measures could be taken to prevent this pernicious Practice & to keep the Soldiers from concerning themselves with the Indians.

The Opinion of this Council is that a Cap^t. 2 Subs & 100 Men will be sufft. to be left to Garrison the Fort at the Camp at the Great Carrying Place

The Members of this Council acquainted the General that they would do everything in their Power to cause his Orders against selling Rum & to prevent any dealings whatsoever from being carried on between the Soldiers & the Indians.

PETER WRAXALL

Sec^y

TO JOSEPH BLANCHARD

Df.

Camp <at Lake George> 6 Septbr 1755¹

SIR

I am glad to hear by yr. favour of yesterday y^t <you> are safe arrived at the Great Carrying Place. You & yr. Regm^t cannot be more desirous of Joining me than I am you should do so.

But by ye last acc^t. of the New York Regm^t. at yr. Camp, it will by no means be prudent to leave them to themselves besides our prov^s. here grow short & untill we get a recruit You would distress us & be distressed yourselves. I propose to leave a Captⁿ. & 100 Men fit for duty at y^e. Fort where you are, the officer & Men cannot yet be fixed on, however they shall none of them come out of yr. Regm^t. wch I propose to take wth. me in y^e. first Division w^{ch} Marches from hence as I make a great dependance upon them. In two or three days at furthest I hope to send you orders to join me here. in y^e meantime I must desire & expect that yr. Regm^t. & the New Yorkers will apply to & finish the Works. Collo. Bagly is to remain with You. a suff^t. number of Men & a couple of days brisk working will do the Business. I am glad you are forwardg the Battoes I very much want them here in order to Caulk & get them ready for Embarking. Pray make use of the Artillery Horses to forward the Service. the Waggoners I believe to be in general a parcell of Rascalls & little Credit to be given to them, few of their Complaints are just, you will examine & do as you find needful, but keep them up to their duty & have a strict Eye over them. I am afraid of fatal delays for y^e. want of Waggon.

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:999, is a letter of September 6th from Sir Charles Hardy to the lords of trade touching reinforcements for Johnson.



COLONEL MOSES TITCOMB

Good Weather is wearing away fast, no time must be lost the moment we can leave this place I will depart.

I am persuaded you will in all respects forward the Service & depend you shant remain a minute longer where you are than necessity & the good of the Service requires.

I am Sir Your very hum Serv^t.

<Desire Col. Cock>croft to
<write me> what disposition
<his peo>ple are in. I long to
have all the Troops up here.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: General's Letter to Colonel Blanchard¹

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.

Camp at Lake George 7 Sep^r. 1755. P. M.

At a Council of War held by General Johnson.

Pre st . General Johnson	Lieu ^t . Col. Whiting
Maj ^r . General Lyman	Lieu ^t . Col. Cole
Col Ruggles	Maj ^r . Fitch
Col. Titcomb	
Col. Williams	

Cap^t Wraxall Sec^{ry}.

The General Acquainted this Council, that a few days ago at <a> Meeting of most of the Members here present, the Question concer<ning a> Fort to be built here had been considered; that it had been agreed on — a Fort here was necessary & the Ground recommended by Capt Eyre w^{ch} had been viewed by most of those Gentlemen, w^{ch} they approved of and that Cap^t

¹ A signed letter from Johnson to Blanchard, dated September 7, 1755 was sold at Henkels's auction room in Philadelphia on November 7, 1911.

Eyre should plan & direct the Building One Capable of commodiously Garrisoning 100 Men. The General further acquainted the Council that a good defensible Fort w^{ch} might be maintained even against some Artillery was very necessary not <only to secure a Retreat to the present Forces in case of Necessity, but to maintain the possession of his Majestys Title to this important pass for the time to come, and desired the> opinion of this Council of War thereon.

It is the Opinion of the Majority of the Members of this Coun<cil> that a Picketted Fort be built without Delay under <the> Direction of Colonel Williams, suff^t. to contain & accommod<ate 100> Men

PETER WRAXALL Secr^y

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.

<Camp at Lake George, 7 Sep^r 1755>

<Indian?> Intelligence

Pres^t General Johnson

Lieu^t Col. Whiting

Maj^r. Gen^l. Lyman

Lieu^t Col. Cole

<Co>l. Ruggles

Maj^r. Fitch

<Co>l. Titcomb

Cap^t Eyre,

Col. Williams

Several Indian officers Wm Printup, Interp^r.

Cap^t Peter Wraxall Secr^y for In. <affairs.>

Most of the Indians at this Encampment

<Three Indians sent by the General on the Scout towards Crown Point returned this afternoon & bring the following Intelligence>

Hendrik the Mohock chief being told the Intelligence by the s^d. three Scouts delivered it as follows



*The Orator Hendrick the great S. ORATOR or Chief of the Seneca Indians.
one of the Six Nations now in Alliance with S. subject to the Crown of Great Britain.
Painted by C. B. Boscawell opposite his own house in London.*

HENDRICK

Bro^{rs}. When we first set out from hence we went to South Bay wh<ere> we spied the Tracts of 2 Men w^{ch} we followed & came to the Tracts of <3> more w^{ch} we pursued & in Journey towards Evening (3 Nights ago) we heard 6 Guns fired & we proceeded on our Journey till Night & in the morning the day before Yesterday we heard so many <Guns> fired that we could not count them, upon w^{ch}. we counselled tog<ether> & thought this Army must be proceeding by way of Wood Creek, but upon going that road we found we were mistaken for <there> were no tracts that way, upon w^{ch} we turned back towards South Bay in our road found three large Roads made by a great Body of Men Yesterday w^{ch} we judge were march<ing> towards the Carrying Place & we hereupon made all possible Dispatch hither to acquaint you herewith, as we expect there may be an Attack made at the Carr^s Place either to day or this Night.

The Indⁿ. officers & Interp^s. being withdrawn the General asked the Above officers present their Opinion wh<at> measures were most adviseable to pursue on the above Intelligence. And the General called in some of the Sachems to give their Opinion.

Two Expresses were immediately dispatched to Col Blanchard Commanding officer at the Fort at the Carrying Place & Scouting Parties sent out from all the Troops h<ere,> Guards Doubled & all the Men ordered to lay on their Ar<ms> all Night. all w^{ch} was done with the Advice of the aforesa<id> Commanding officers here.

PETER WRAXALL

Secr^y for Ind. <Affairs &c.>

BARON DE DIESKAU'S FORCES¹

[État de l'Armée française]

[2 Bataillons]	[774]	} [3099]
[Soldats] des Milices	[1156]	
[Cann]oniers	[67]	
[R]eserve	362	
Sauvages	659	
Canooters & 2 Domestiques	67	
Officiers & Cadets des Sauvages	14	
[In]terprete et Aumoniers	4	
Nos Domestiques	8	
[Chir]u[r]giens	6	
	18	
	3099	
	3117	

Recapitulation

2 Bataillons	774
Milices	1393
Troupe de la Colonie	192
Cannonirs	67
Officirs & Cadets de Sauvages	14
Sauvages	659
	3099

Copied from a Paper of the French Generals

¹ Not later than September 8, 1755. Compare Rutherford to Shirley, September 22, 1755. This State and Recapitulation in the French is in Public Record Office, C. O. 5.46, London, England; transmitted by Johnson to Shirley on September 22.



REV. STEPHEN WILLIAMS
Chaplain in Johnson's Army



WILLIAM WILLIAMS

In the battle of Lake George. A signer of the Declaration of Independence

Translation

State of the French Army

2	Battalions	774	}	3099
	Soldiers of militia	1156		
	Artillerymen	67		
	Reserve	362		
	Indians	659		
	Boatmen and 2 servants	67		
	Officers and cadets of the Indians	14		
	Interpreter and chaplains	4		
	Our servants	8		
	Surgeons	6		
		18		
		3099		
		3117		

Recapitulation

2	Battalions	774
	Militia	1393
	Colonial troops	192
	Artillerymen	67
	Officers and cadets of Indians	14
	Indians	659
		3099

ORDRE DE BATAILLE SUR TROIS COLONNES¹

M. le B. de Dieskau General

M. de Mercier Marechal des Logis	M. de Montreuil Maj ^r . Gen ^l . des Troupes	M. Pean Maj ^r . des Troupes & Milices
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Officiers attachés aux Sauvages	Mess ^{rs} . de Roquemaure Lieut. Col. Com ^{dt} .	Corps de Reserve
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Mess ^{rs} . de St. Pierre de Longeuil de St. Luc de Montesson de Niverville	les Troupes de France, formant la Colonne du Centre De Celoron Com ^{dt} . les Troupes de la Colonie	M ^{rs} . de Re- pentigny	{ sous les ordres de Mr. de St. Pierre de Gannes Off ^r . Major de Varennes de Langy
--	--	--------------------------------------	--

Cadets Mess ^{rs} . Trebert Hewimont Rainbault Courte- manche Cuissy Aubert Boisrouvré La Cres- sonniere Bayeuville	sous les Ordres de M. de Celoron	De Raymond Com ^{dt} . la Colonne de la Droite De Vassan Com ^{dt} . la Colonne de la Gauche De St. Pierre Com ^{dt} . les Sauvages De Repentigny Com ^{dt} . un Corps de Reserve de 300 hommes sous les Ordres de M. de St. Pierre	Mrs. de Re- pentigny Cadets Mrs. La Fontaine Fontenay Joannes 300 Miliciens choisis, et 27 ou 30 Off ^{rs} . de Milice ou Bourgeois volontaires. ces 300 Miliciens composés de 200 Voyageurs de Mon-
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Environ 700 Sau-
vages – Iroquois, Al-
gonquins, Nipissings,

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.46, London, England. Inclosed in Johnson to Sir Thomas Robinson, January 17, 1756.

Hurons, Abenakis	Colonne du Centre	treal, 30 des trois Rivieres, et 70 de Quebec
Colonne de la Gauche	M. de Roquemaure Com ^{dt} . la Colonne com- posée de 2 Comp ^{es} . de Grenadiers de la Reine et Languedoc, en tete	Colonne de la Droite
M. de Vassan Com ^{dt} . la Colonne	8 Pelotons de la Reine 8 Pelotons de Languedoc La Comp ^{ie} . des Canoniers, Bombardiers, et des Mili- ces formant la Colonne	Mr. de Raymond Com ^{dt} . la Colonne
2 Brigades de 3 Comp ^{es} . chacune		2 Brigades de 3 Comp ^{es} . chacune
Premier Brigade		Premiere Brigade
Mess ^{rs} de Vassan Com ^{dt} .	Les Sauvages et le Corps de Reserve formant l'Avant-garde	Ms. de Raymond Com ^{dt} .
3 Comp ^{es} . { de Gannes de Meloise de Contre- coeur	Chaque Comp ^e . des deux Colonnes composée d'un Sergent, d'un Corporal, de 15 ou 16 Soldats des Troupes de la Colonies et de 100 Miliciens plus ou moins	3 Comp ^s . { de Becan- cour de la ronde de la Croix
Second Brigade		Second Brigade
Mess ^{rs} . de la Colom- biere, Com ^{dt} .		Mr ^s . de Beaujeu Com ^{dt} .
3 Comp ^{es} . { Douville de farro- bert de Mor- ville	2 Tambours par Brigade	3 Comp ^s . { du muy de Beran- ger de L'Es- pervanche
Cadet d'Albergathy, garçon Major des 2 Brigades		Cadet de L'Esper- vanche, garçon Major des deux Brigades de Vicherville garçon Major de Brigade

Dusablé garçon
Major

Le Chev. de la Mil-
tiere Cadet de Lan-
guedoc garçon Major
de Brigade

Translation

ORDER OF BATTLE IN THREE COLUMNS

Baron Dieskau General

M. de Mercier Quartermaster	M. de Montreuil Maj ^r . G ^l . of Regulars	M. Pean Maj ^r . of Regulars & Militia
Officers in the Indian service	Mess ^{rs} . de Roquemaure Lieut: Col. Com ^g :	Reserve corps
Mess ^{rs} de S ^t : Pierre de Longeuil de S ^t : Luc de Montesson de Niverville	the Regulars of France, forming the Column of the Center De Celoron Com ^g . the Troops of the Colony	Mess ^{rs} : de Repen- tigny { under the orders of M. de S ^t : Pierre de Gannes Off ^r . Major ¹ de Varennes de Langy
Cadets Mess ^{rs} . Trebert Heurimont Raimbault Courte- manche Cuissy Aubert	M. de Celoron under the orders of	Cadets Mess ^{rs} : La Fontaine Fontenay Joannes
	De Raymond Com ^g . the Right Column De Vassan Com ^g . the Left Column	

300 picked Militia,

¹ Garrison major

Boisrouvré	De St: Pierre Com ^g . the	and 27 or 30 off ^{rs} .
La Cres-	Indians	of Militia or volun-
soniere	De Repentigny Com ^g . a	teer Citizens.
Bayeuville	Reserve Corps of 300	These 300 Militia
	men under the orders of	composed of 200
About 700 Indians—	M. de St: Pierre	Rangers from Mon-
Iroquois, Algon-		treal 30 from Trois
quins, Nipissings,		Rivières, and 70
Hurons, Abenakis		from Quebec
Column of the Center		
Left Column		Right Column
M. de Vassan Com ^g .	M. de Roquemaure	M. de Raymond
the Column	Com ^g . the Column com-	Com ^g . the Column
2 Brigades of 3	posed of 2 Comp ^s : of	2 Brigades of 3
Comp ^s : each	Grenadiers of la Reine	Comp ^s . each
First Brigade	and Languedoc, at the	First Brigade
	front	
Mess ^{rs} . de Vassan	8 Platoons of la Reine	Mess ^{rs} : de Raymond
Com ^g .	8 Platoons of Languedoc	Com ^g .
de Gannes	The Comp ^y : of the Artil-	{ de Becan-
3 Comp ^s . { de Meloise	lerymen, gunners, and	cour
de Contre-	Militia forming the	{ de la
coeur	Column	Ronde
Second Brigade	The Indians and the	{ de la Croix
	Reserve Corps forming	Second Brigade
Mess ^{rs} . de la Colom-	the van-guard	
biere, Com ^g .	Each Comp ^y . of the two	Mess ^{rs} : de Beaujeu
Douville	Columns composed of a	Com ^g .
de Farro-	Sergeant, of a Corporal,	{ Du Muy
3 Comp ^s : { bert	of 15 or 16 Soldiers of	de Beran-
de Mor-	the Colony Troops and of	ger
ville	100 Militia more or less	{ de L'Es-
		pervanche

Cadet d'Albergathy, assistant Adjutant of the 2 Brigades	2 Drums to a Brigade	Cadet de L'Esper- vanche assistant Ad- jutant of the two Brigades de Vicherville assist- ant Adjutant of Bri- gade
Dusablé assistant Adjutant		Chevalier de la Mil- tiere Cadet of Lan- guedoc assistant Ad- jutant of Brigade

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.

<Camp at Lake George, 9 Sept. 1755>

Minutes of a Council of War held by General Johnson:

<Pres ^t > General Johnson	<Lieu ^t > Col. Cole
<Maj ^r > General Lyman	Maj ^r Fitch
<Col.> Ruggles	Cap ^t . Eyre.
<Lieu ^t > Col. Pomroy	
<Lieu ^t > Col. Whiting	

Cap^t. Peter Wraxall Secr^y.

The General Acquainted this Council that he had call<ed> them together in order to consider, in the present State of th<is> Army, & from the Intelligence gained from the French General his Aid de Camp & several Prisoners taken & from the Papers gained from the Enemy; what Measures they would advise to be taken at this critical Conjun<cture>.

The Unanimous Opinion of this Council is <that> the General be desired immediately to dispatch an Express to the several Gov^{ts}. who have raised Troops on this Expedition <by> One general Letter to be sent to the Province of the Massachusetts



BLOODY POND

Two miles south of Lake George where some of the retreating French were
killed

Bay, giving as Summary an Account as time & Circumstances will permit of the Engage<ment> of Yesterday & of the Intelligence derived from it & the present State of this Army, and th<at> we employ all our time in securing ourselves here in the best manner possible.

P. Lyman
 Tim^o. Ruggles
 Seth Pomeroy
 Nathan Whiting
 Edw^d. Cole
 Eleaz Fitch
 Will: Eyre

REPORTS ON THE BATTLE OF LAKE GEORGE

The Library Collection contains the draft in poor condition of Johnson's report, written September 9th and 10th, to the colonial governors on the Battle of Lake George. (See Johnson Calendar, p. 48.) It was printed in the *London Magazine*, 24, 1755 and reprinted in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:691-95; Q, 2:402-5.

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:696, reprinted from the *Gentleman's Magazine*, is a small map of the country round Lake George. In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, v. 6, are printed four papers relating to the battle of September 8th: a letter of September 10th from Peter Wraxall, at Lake George, to James De Lancey, giving an account of the battle, p. 1003-4; a letter of the 10th, containing a gunner's description, p. 1005; returns, dated the 11th, of killed, wounded and missing, p. 1006-7; and Johnson's conference on the 11th and 12th with Indian warriors, p. 1011-13. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:689-90, is an account brought to New York from Albany of the battle and reinforcements in motion. In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10: between p. 316 and 399, are a number of letters, reports and narratives, from the French, relating to the battle of the 8th. They include letters from Baron Dieskau, M. de Vaudreuil, Vaudreuil's instructions to Dieskau, a journal and letters of M. de Montreuil, "Dialogue between Marshal Saxe and Baron de Dieskau in the Elysian Fields," reports by Commissary Doreil, and other matter. A letter from Dieskau, dated New York, June 22, 1756, to Count d'Argenson, contains praise of Johnson's humanity in saving Dieskau from the vengeance of the Indians, p. 422-23.

EXAMINATION OF FRENCH PRISONERS

<9 Sept 1755¹>

<Questions ask>ed the French <Prisoners and their answers,
being Sworn upon the Holy> Cross

The Deposition of John <Ferry>

<Ques>tions how many Regiments Came from France this
Summer

Answer 6 Battalions 500 men in Each.

Question how many men of these <Battalions> Arrived at
Quebeck.

Answer 4 Battalions — of 2 Came to Crown <Point and>
2 Went to Cateracowa — one in July and one in August

Question how many Regulars Came from the Carrying Place.²

Answer about <500,> of which 340 Came here and 120
Stayed with the Battoes.

The Deposition of James Minor.

Question When Did you Come From Mount Real <Mon-
treal>.

Answer the 25 of August.

Question how many Canadians and Indians Was the Came
out.

Answer, about 1000 Canadians and 800 Indians.

Question When Did you Get to Crown Point.

Answer the first of September.

Question how many Day Provisions Did you bring from
Crown Point.

Answer 15 Days Provisions in about 100 Battoes.

Question how many men Came from the fort to the Carrying
place.

Answer 3500.

Question how many men Did you leave at Crown Point.

Answer 250.

¹ The conjectural date is supplied.

² At Ticonderoga.

Question how Many men Came in the party that attacked us.
Answer 1800.

Question how long Did it take you to Come from the Carrying Place to where you Left your Battoes to Come here.

Answer one Day and a half.

Question how long Did it take you to Come there to where you met our party.

Ans^r 3½ Days — the Distance about 36 miles.

Question Did not all the Militia That Could be Raised at Mount Real Come out upon this party.

Ans^r most all.

Question Where there was plenty of Provision at Crown point.

Answer there Was.

The Deposition of Cap^t. James Couraveau.

Question What number of Ships and Troops Came to Quebec this Summer.

Ans^r He Could not tell But thought about 1400.

Ques^t. when Did <you> Come from Mount Real.

Ans^r. in Aug^t.

Question how many men Came with you to Crown point.

Ans^r about 3000.

Ques^t. are not the Greatest number of the Militia In Canady Gone out to the Several Forts.

Ans^r. they are the Greatest Number of them.

Ques^t. are provisions plenty in Canady

Ans^r. they are in Sufficiency.

Question how many men Came on this Detach<ment> that attacked this Fort.

Ans^r. about 1700.

<Question in what places the French are throwing up Works between here and Crown point.>

<Ans^r at the> Narrows.¹

¹ Not the Narrows of Lake George, but the passage in Lake Champlain variously known as the Two Rocks, Pulpit Rock and the Narrows. See Fitch's *Map of Washington County, New York*, in *Trans. of N. Y. State Agricultural Society*, 9: opposite p. 932.

Question Whether he Knew where he was Designed <when he Set> out.

Answer no — but Supposed for the fort <at the> Carrying Place.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Examination of Some French
Prisoners taken at Lake George
7^{br} 1755

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN¹

A. L. S.

<Sep^l. 10th. 1755.>

May itt Plese yuor Excelancy

as I had y^e. honour of A Letter <from> you this Sumer on Indian Affairs with a Me<sidge> to Scaroadey which I Deliverd him before Brad<ck,> and Return^d. you his answer which I hoop you have Received I Make Bold att present to Wright you to <give> you Some account of y^e. Situation of Indian Affairs in those parts. Since y^e. unhapy Defeatt of ginreal

¹ George Croghan was born in Ireland, and died at Passayunk, Pa., in 1782. After coming to America, he lived on the west bank of the Susquehanna river, early engaging in the Indian trade. His knowledge of the aboriginal character and languages led to his employment as the Pennsylvania agent in the Ohio country. With a commission as captain, he accompanied Braddock in the expedition against Fort Duquesne. In 1756 Croghan entered Johnson's Indian department and was made deputy agent, having in charge the Pennsylvania and Ohio tribes, and for a number of years continued a management of Indian affairs that was marked with skill and courage. He made a settlement near Fort Pitt; and in 1768 secured from the Indians a tract of 100,000 acres between Otsego lake and Unadilla river in New York. At the outbreak of the Revolution he was a member of the Pittsburgh committee of correspondence. A daughter of Croghan married a British officer, Lieutenant Augustine Prevost, afterward, in the war of the Revolution, General Prevost. Part of the tract on Otsego lake became the property in 1783 of William Cooper, father of James Fenimore Cooper, the novelist. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:982-83 (note).

Braddock the purticklors of which Action you have Seen in the papers the Indians from y^e. Ohio has this Sumer kill^d. and Tuck prisoners Nott Less then 100 hundred of Men Women and Children outt of y^e. back Setelments of Verginia to ohio. there has been some Indians att Philedelphia from o<hio> Since our Defeete to Treat with this goverment Some of which I am <Shure> was in y^e action against us that Day genreal Brad<ock> was Defeated what y^e. Governor and them has Don I Cant Tell butt itt is My opinion we have very few Indians to Depend on Nor Do I See any pains Takeing by any of y^e. Goverments hear to Draw any of y^e. Indians back or Even to Secure those that are yett in our Intrest. I main y^e. Suthered Indians who I judge will Soon be Drown to y^e. french Intrest as Governer Glin purchest there Cuntry from them which has been y^e. Case with y^e. Indians on Suskahanna Sence Mr. Pen purshest y^e. Land Last att Albany Cheefe of which Indians are Since flead to ohio and undoubtedly become Aleys to y^e. french as you are Scensable all Indians hate to Live on any Land that they Cant Call thire own.

<A Great Many of ye uper Chorigees> is unready Crost y^e. greatt <Mountain and gon> to Setle on y^e. ohio y^e. Six Nations Seems <very Muc>h of y^e. french side of y^e. question and Dose all <they C>an to oblidge all y^e Tribes Setled on ohio to Joyne y^e. french this is only My own opinion of y^e. Six Nations You are a better Judge which way they are Inclind. then I can be Butt I Ashure y^r. Excellancy without there be Imediatt Industry us^d. with y^e. Southerd Indians and what few are hear of y^e. Six Nations Dalaway & Shannas yett Remaining y^e. whole will be in y^e. french Intrest by Next May for y^e. french are Now Makeing what Indostrey they Can AMongst y^e. Southerd Indians and <un>less you give Posatiff Instructions to y^e. governors <hear> To Secure y^e. Intrest of those Indians I Despair <of> itt being Don and indeed Directions how they Should proceed for they hate to be att any Expençe or Truble Nor Do any of them understand Indian

Affairs I hoope you will pardon Me for Taking upon Me to give you So Long and Tadious an Acount butt as I am Scensable y^e. Weight of all Indian Affairs in those parts Lays on you and that ginreal Bradock putt Me on kings pay for My Asistance with y^e. Indians here I think itt My Duty and persweeds My Self y^r. Excelancy will Excuse Me giving you this Truble as y^e. unhapy Difrence between governor Morris and our ASsembly hear has prevented this goverment from Doing any thing for y^e. Defence of this Cuntry and as I Live 30 Miles back of all Inhab- itance on y^e fronteers I have been oblidge^d. to <Rase a Volunteer Company on My own> Expençe and am building <a Small Stockade fort to Secure> what Litle Estate I have Left which <Men and My> Self will be Ready att any Time to Serve <his Magesty> when Call^d. On I Expect you will See Capt. orme y^e <ginreel's> Eadecapt who Can Inform you on what footing Gin<real> Bradock put Me or whether I Don My Duty as far <as> was putt in My power if I can be of any Service in y^e. Expedition to you or in Indian Affairs in this Part of y^e. Country I Shall be very Proud to Serve his Magisty and Expects y^r Intrest if you Shall think Me Deserving on Inquiring into My Conection and ¹you will Write Me an answer by y^e. first opertunity. I am y^r. Excelancy's Most hum<ble> and obeedent Servant

GEO: CROGHAN

Cumberland County
Pensylvaine

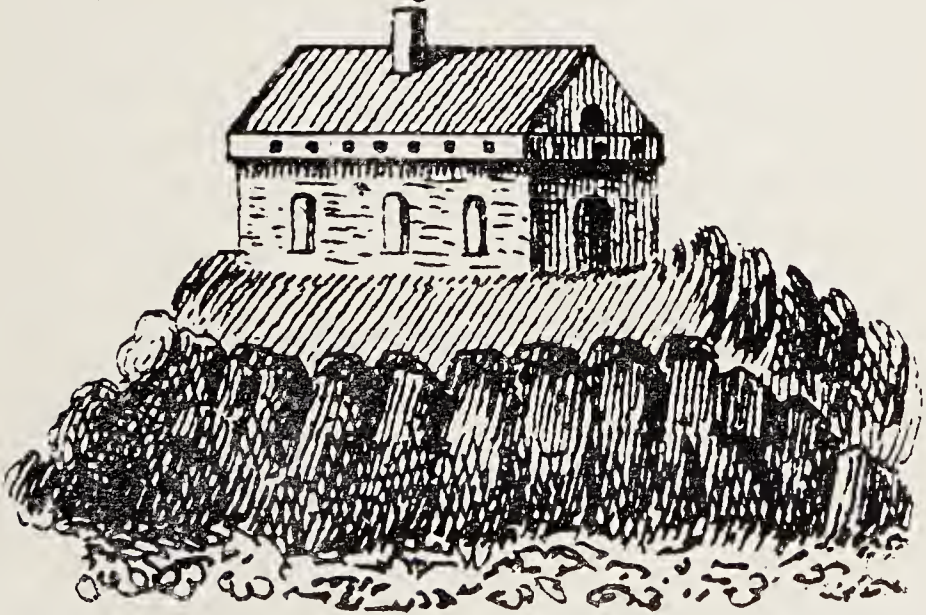
ADDRESSED: On His Majesties Service
To

Major General William Johnson
at his head Quarters.
These

INDORSED: George Croghans Letter
dated Sep^r. 11. 1755

¹ Manuscript torn.

*Maison de Lydius 38
pas françois de long 19
p. de large*



HOUSE OF LYDIUS ON THE SITE OF FORT EDWARD

WILLIAM EYRE TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

Contemporary Copy¹

Lake George 10th: Sep^r: 1755.

SIR

As Major General Johnson is sending your Excellency an Express to inform your Excellency of our Affairs in these parts, I take the Opportunity to inform you, that by his Order I have built a Fort at the Carrying place, which will contain 300 Men; it's in the form of a Square with three Bastions, & takes in Col Lydius's House; This Worke is pallisaded quite round, which is its chief Security from a surprize or sudden Attack; as I was oblig'd to leave that place, and most of the Troops to come here, it was out of my power to make the Rampart and Parapet, of a sufficient height and thickness, to stand Cannon, or the Ditch wide and deep enough to make it's Passage very difficult; however I think 3 or 400 Men will be able to resist 1500, provided they do their Duty, if Cannon is not brought against it. I beg leave to inform Your Excellency, that I am of Opinion, its very necessary that a strong and regular Work is erected at this place, to keep possession, so far of this Country, and the more so, if it should be found not practicable to go any further this Campaigne.

The Enemy by all Accounts are very formidable, & I think it not improbable, they will pay us another Visit soon: if they can seize, and take our Work at the Carrying Place, I fear it would be attended with bad Consequences, as it would cut off our retreat and Communication with Albany, and totally stop our Reinforcements and Provisions from Joining us; if another Road could be not found; which I believe is not easy to be met with. I cannot help thinking, that what induced the French, or may induce them hereafter to attack us here, is fearing we would not attempt to go any further, so was resolved to cutt us off before we retired; for surely, if they are a match for us, and dare Storm

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 46. London, England. Inclosed in Shirley to Sir Thomas Robinson, October 5, 1755.

our Camp so far from Crown Point; and consequently from their own Strength, how much more advantage would they have over us, if they waited for our approaching them, and that with part of our force; whilst they could make use of all theirs, besides being posted advantageously; it's certain the Enemy behaved gallantly, and did much more than I thought they dare attempt: however they are repulsed, and their General taken, who I beleive to be an excellent Officer, and who we are sure of is a Man of resolution; these few thoughts I beg leave to throw before your Excellency: General Johnson was wounded soon after the Action began, in encouraging the Troops, and making the necessary disposition to sustain the Attack, the Numbers of our killed, Wounded and missing I presume he acquaints you of, but the loss of the Enemy is very uncertain. I sincerely wish your Excellency Success.

And am

Your Excellency's most Obedient
humble Servant
Will: Eyre.

His Excellency General Shirley.

a true Copy Ex^a. by

W^m. ALEXANDER Sec^y.

INDORSED: Copy

Letter from Cap^t. Eyre
to Major General Shirley
dated 10th. Sep^r: 1755.
N^o. 2. in Maj^r. Gen^l. Shirley's Letter
of Oct^r. 5th: 1755.

FROM HUBERT MARSHALL

A. L. S.

[*Albany, Sept. 12, 1755*]

DEAR SIR

I shou'd before have Acknowledged [] 4th
 Ins^t. the Moment I receiv'd it, I sent to the Mayor, []
 Vanderhyden, who took such Measures as they thought Proper
 I did all in my Power to Secure his Majestys Garrison I also
 gave Intelligence to Col Glen & the Commanding Officer of
 ffort Cosby

I now with the greatest Pleasure Congratulate You on Your
 happy Victory of which however I know no Particulars but
 [] Report, for I am sorry to tell You that the
 Mayor & Corporation have not once Communicated to me any
 letter they receiv'd Nor let me know of any Express they sent
 away. You will be Perhaps likewise Informed that I have not
 fired any Guns on the Joyfull Occasion, which I hope You will
 be Assured did not proceed from any want of Respect to You,
 but in the first Place from not receiving any Message or Informa-
 tion from the Mayor (Except what Cap^t. Correy told me in a
 Private Maner) and next from being soe short of Powder to
 fire a Round, and I thought a Single Gunn only would Alarm
 the Country.

You Sir May be (and I hope are) Convinced of My Sincere
 regard for You and believe I do not only rejoyce in Your Success
 as it Respects the Public We[l]fare but in a More particular
 Manner. Am truly Glad of the Honour You have Obtained
 which I hope will Increase In Your Compleat Triumph over
 Our Enemys Pardon any More but hope this will find You in
 Perfect Health & beg my Respects may be Acceptable & when
 You will please to Honour me with any Commands they shall
 be Punctually Obey'd by him who is with the greatest Respect,
 Sir

Your most Obed^t humble Serv^t.

HUBERT MARSHALL

P. S. My Complim^{ts} to Gen^l Lyman &c Cap^t Eyres, Raxall & all Your Officers I shall be Obliged to You for the Honour of a line only to satisfy me You receiv'd this Letter.

To The Hon^{ble} MAJOR GEN^L JOHNSON Commander in Chief of all his Majestys [forces] at Lake George &c

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Hub^t Marshal 12 Sep^r.

Rec^d. 20 d^o

1755 Ans^d. 21 d^o

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.

Camp at Oswego September 12 17[55]

SIR

I am to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter dated 1st. Instant from the Camp at Lake George inclosing a Copy of the Minute of your Council of War held at the Great Carrying place the 22^d. and 23^d. of August.

No Apology is wanting for your not sending me a particular Answer to my Letter of the 4th. past; instead of wishing to have one, I could wish I had not receiv'd your Letter of the 27th. July in Answer to mine of the seventeenth.

I am sorry to hear that the Fatigue of the Duty, you are engag'd in, hath made a bad Impression upon your Health; I am sensible, it must be great, and heartily wish you Health to go through it.

For my part, I have had one continu'd Scene of Disappointment^{ts}. from the Want of Waggons, and Desertion of Battomen, &c from the time of my leaving Schenectady to this Hour, which, with the great Increase of Business, that has fallen upon me by the Death of Major General Braddock, hath given me a very great Share of <the> Fatigue.

It gives me great Satisfaction to find by Letters from the Lieut^t. Gov^r. of the Massachusetts Bay, and the Gov^r. of Connecticutt in answer to mine pressing them to send you a Reinforcement,

that you are by this time a thousand Men at least stronger, than when I left you at Albany; and by the Minute of the Council of War, that you are probably before now join'd by the New Hampshire Forces, which there was some Reason to despair of your ever being.

The Chief Command of His Majesty's Forces in North America being devolv'd upon me by the Death of Major General Braddock, Colonel Dunbar the Commanding Officer of the Forces to the Westward hath apply'd to me for Orders; I had before directed him to march the Troops to Albany, there to wait further Orders; and expect they will begin to move very soon thither, where they will be at hand to be employ'd in any part of his Majesty's Service relative either to the Expedition under my own Command, or that under your's, that may require 'em; and for that Purpose, must desire you to let me know from you as frequently as you can, the Situation of the latter, in as particular manner as may be.

I am not a Judge of which is the most advantageous Route for your Forces to march thro' to Crown point. But think in general that the Opinion and Advice of your Council of War was right: and I am of their Opinion with regard to the Strength and Opposition, you are threaten'd with, (w^{ch}. yet I expect will be a Strong one) that great Allowances are to be made for French Boasting: I have lately rec^d. here a Letter from Admiral Boscawen, inclosing a Copy of one, he had wrote to the late General Braddock, in w^{ch}. he says the French Squadron had on Board Six Battallions of Foot, eight Companies of w^{ch}: he took in the Lys, that 1100 of the Troops were in Garrison at Louisbourg; so that supposing all the Rest were destin'd for, and had got safe into Canada, & that none of the 3000 were lost upon their Passage, there will remain by that Acc^t. but 1500.

The Intelligence, you receiv'd from Canada by your Indians, of 300 Battoes being gone to Cadaraqui is I believe in part true; it agrees in Substance with undoubted Intelligence, I have receiv'd from some of the Indians with me, and confirm'd by a Party, which I sent to an Island very near the Fort; But I believe the

Number of Battoes may be something magnify'd: That there is now a number of Regular Troops there, of 500 at least, I certainly know from the number of Officers Tents in an Incampment, w^{ch}. was seen by our People at three Quarters of a Mile Distance, and the Dimensions of the Ground, it takes up; it is said by another Indian that a Month ago he was to <ld> at the Fort by the French that they expected a much larger <N>umber of Forces than that very soon from Canada, & then they should make a Visit to Oswego.

By an Acc^t., I have had from Niagara, there seems reason to think that the Indians, who were concern'd in the Defeat of the late General, are much disgusted at the Treatment, they have <re>ceiv'd from the French both at the time, & since that Action, which wth. the loss of Men, they receiv'd in it (said to be 30 at <le>ast) and the Opinion, they have conceiv'd from it of the Bravery of the English notwithstanding the general Ignominy thrown upon the unfortunate Army by their own Countrymen, that the Action may possibly not operate so much to the prejudice of the English, as we had reason to fear it might.

I am sorry to find from the Minute of your Council of War that the Cagnawagas seem so obstinately bent to take up the Hatchet on the Side of the French; it is possible, the loss of forty or fifty of them may open their Eyes to perceive the Folly of their taking part in the Quarrels between the Engl<ish> and French.

I am unwilling to mention any thing here concerning Ind<ian> Affairs; But am oblig'd from a Letter, I have within three Day<s> receiv'd from Sir Thomas Robinson one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, to repeat it to you to send me a Copy of the Instructions, you receiv'd from the late General Braddock, together a Copy of his Commission to you for the management of Indian Affairs.

I wish you Success in His Majesty's Service now under your Command, and am, Sir, Your most Humble Servant,

W. SHIRLEY.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Saturday 13 Sep^r. 1755. 3 oClock P M

MY DEAR SIR

I have beg'd the favour of Dr. Shuckburgh to write you a few Lines: But as I have a moments time I shall just inform you that last Night Gov^r. Hardy received the Copy of a Letter from Col. Blanchard dated the 9th: Instant wrote before he had received a full Account of the Event of the preceeding day. We are much encouraged by a Letter from Dr. Middleton wrote at the same time so hope you have at least kept your Post if not beet the French. To Morrow, Sr. Charles,¹ Lieu^t. Gov^r. de Lancey, (Mr. Pownall), Cap^t. Rutherford & one other of the Council, Mr. Horsmanden I surmise, & my self are to set out for Albany, I dont yet know, but suppose Mr. Barrons the Gov^{rs}. Secretary will go. Mr. O. de Lancey goes afterward I believe & talks of raising a small Company as a Body Guard to his Excy, who has most favourable Sentiments of you and is perfectly well acquainted with your Character: We have taken 3 Snows, and it is said 4 Ships laden with Prov^s. for Louisburgh. Adieu my dear Sr. and believe me to be yours wth the most sincere affection

GW BANYAR

P. S: If your Stores are expended, or there is want of 'em I suppose you'l send an immediate account

¹Sir Charles Hardy was born in England in 1716(?) and died at Portsmouth, England, May 18, 1780. Entering the navy in 1731, he was elevated in 1741 to the command of the *Rye*; and in 1744 went out to Newfoundland in charge of a convoy. In 1755 he was knighted and made governor of New York, an office from which he retired in 1757, returning to England. The following year he assisted in the reduction of Louisburg; and the next year had a part in the naval victory of Quiberon Bay. In 1762 he was promoted to a vice admiral's rank, and in 1770 to that of admiral of the blue. Four years later he was chosen to represent Portsmouth in parliament. In 1779 Hardy commanded the channel squadron, which successfully operated, though without an engagement, against a combined French and Spanish fleet, formed to facilitate an invasion of the British coast. See *Dictionary of National Biography*.

FROM WILLIAM COCKCROFT

A. L. S.

*Camp at the Great Carrying place
Sept^r 14th. 1755*

SIR

Mr. Lyman Comys^y. I have let him have a party consisting of a Lieut. one Serjt. one Corp^l & thirty men to Guard the Waggon till they meet a party from Your Camp to relieve them.

John Thomson of the Mohiawk's Country left our Camp the Day before your letter came to hand. Our people at present is some thing better I hope you will Order me to joyn you very soon. I expect we shall have a Mutiny as soon as Our Soldiers here that the are allow'd half a pint of rum ~~per~~ Day by y^e Provin[ce]. I have Issued no more all along then a Gil.

Please to fill up Lieut. Mich^l Thodey Commission as Cap^t. in the Room of C. Van Den Bourgh Deceasd. as to our Serg^t. Major I am afraid will not answer for a Lieutenant. If poor C. Mc.Ginnis Comp^y. is not fill'd up, I shall take it as a favour you be pleased to let me have it as it's a Coustomary thing for Field Officers to have Company's. I wish You joy of the good Success you lately meet with. I wish I had a few good Carpenters, & some Wall pieces. we have Six French Prisoners shall be glad to Know what I am to doe with them. I am Sir

Y^r Most Obd^t. Serv^t.W^m: COCKCROFT.MAJ^R. GEN^L. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To Major Gen^l. Johnson
at Fort George

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.

Head Quarters <Camp at Lake George Sunday 14 Sep
1755>¹

At a Council of War held by Maj^r <Gen^l Johnson>

Pres^t. Major Gen^l Johnson

Lieu^t. Col. Whiting

Maj^r. Gen^l. Lyman

Lieu^t. Col. Cole

Col. Ruggles

Major Fitch

Col. Blanchard

Cap^t Eyre Quarter M^r Gen^l &c.

Lieu^t Col. Bagly

M^r Glazier Adjut^t Gen^l.

Lieu^t Col. Gilbert

Peter Wraxall Secr^y.

Art^{cle} 1 The General Acquainted this Council of War, that from the late Designs of the Enemy to attack the Fortifications at the Great Carrying Place, he is apprehensive the Enemy may yet make an attempt upon it and as it has no Cannon to defend it & is a Post of the utmost Importance to us particularly at this Juncture, he proposes to reinforce it with the 3 Connecticut Companys now here belonging to the New York Reg^t. and that the whole of said Reg^t. should be posted there till further Orders, unless this Council of War should give him good reasons to the contrary or advise any Measure more eligible.

2 — The General acquainted this Council of War that his Opinion had always inclined to have some stronger Fortifications than a picketted Fort built here, but had yielded to the Opinion of the Council of War & to their Informations that most of the Troops had an Aversion to digging & that the Majority of the

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, v. 6, is a letter of September 14th from Sir Charles Hardy to the lords of trade, reporting Johnson's success on September 8th, p. 1002-3. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:697-98, is a minute of the provincial council of the 14th, containing intelligence of the action of the 8th and measures for provisioning Johnson's army and observing a thanksgiving day.

officers & Troops were eagerly bent on having on<ly a> picketted Fort.

<As to the First Article, this Council> of War are of Opinion <that the s'd. Three Com>panys now under Maj^r. Fitch^s. Command should <be sent> to reinforce the remainder of the New York Reg^t. at the Great Carrying Place.

PETER WRAXALL Secr^y.

(N. B.) The Second Article was read to the Council but the General did not take any vote or Resolution thereon, finding the Council averse to having any other Fort than a picketted one.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Minutes of Council of War
14 Sep^r. 1755.

TO WILLIAM COCKCROFT

*Df. S.*¹

Camp at Lake George 15 Sep^r. 1755.

SIR

I have your Letter of this Day by Lieu^t Thoody.² The filling up the vacancies in your Reg^t. must be deferred till the hurry of Buisness is a little abated.

When the Men know they are allowed half a Pint of Rum a day & will not be easy without it you must 'een let 'em have it.

With this Convoy you will receive 22 Prison<ers,> some of them are badly wounded & I hope your Humanity will lead you to have them dressed & taken proper care of, & keep a strict & good Guard over those who are capable of making their escape, and when a good Guard goes down to Albany let them be sent to the Magistrates there in order to be forwarded to New York.

I send part of the three Companys of your Reg^t. with these Waggons & the remainder will set out to morrow with the French

¹ By Wraxall.

² Lieutenant Michael Thody, of Captain Isaac Corsa's Westchester company.

General The Baron De Dieskau & his Aid de Camp. I desire you will prepare the best Accommodations possible for the General & during his Stay to have him treated with the utmost respect & good Usage & to forward him to Albany in the Litter & by a Battoe as he shall Choose & Dr. Middleton (who is to attend him) advise. His Aid de Camp & the French Man out of the Rhode Island Reg^t. are to attend him. It will be proper in a Civil way to keep a sharp Eye on the Aid de Camp And the officer who goes down to Albany to keep a good look out.

Pray use your best Endeavours to keep up good Guards, Peace & Order amongst the Troops under your Command, & keep in a watchful Posture against the Enemy. I woud have you daily send out small parties of 3, 4 or 5 to Scour the Woods for a mile or two round you.

The Waggon are to return to Albany in order to bring up more Provisions as fast as they can. pray do y^r. Commissaries p<ro>vide any Waggon or send any provisions up. I some time ago sent a positive Order to all the Commissaries to disp<a>tch the whole Provision & Stores with the utmost Expedition. I hope you have taken care to enforce my orders upon y^r. Commissaries, that no future Blame may lay at y^r. Door.

The Remainder of the Waggon will set off tomorrow Morning with the Tents &c. of your Companys.

I am Sir Your hum Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

You will send down the Prisoners you have to Albany along with y^e rest & transmit me in writing what Intelligence you can get from them.

Ensign Stevens who Commands a Party of the Connecticut Militia is to take charge of the Pris^{rs}. to Albany, those who can make an Escape you must secure properly.

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Gen^{ls}. Letter to Col
Cockcroft with
Prisoners &c.
and the Col^s. Letter

TO THE MAYOR AND MAGISTRATES OF ALBANY

Df.¹*Camp at Lake George 15 Sep^r. 1755*S^r

I herewith send you a Power to impress Waggon, Horses & Drivers for the use of the present Expedition & I re[fer] you to the Preamble of the same for the reasons for my so doing. We have only 60 Waggon come in last night all we have had for near 10 days & if they had [not] arrived we should have wanted Bread. I gave sometime [] the most positive Orders in my Power for sending with the ut[most] dispatch possible all the Provisions & Stores belonging to the Army lying at Albany, but I find by the Accounts I receive that people hide their Waggon & Horses & that it is with the utmost Difficulty that any can be got, as large reinforce[ments] are coming to us & the greater part of our Stores behind, and the season for this Expedition wearing away, there is a most absolute necessity in order to carry the same into Execution, that all our Provisions & Stores should be sent from Albany w[ith]out Delay. I therefore call on & crave your utmost assist[ance] to obtain or impress all the Waggon & Horses in your County in order to make but one or two turns & to bring the remainder of the Battoes from the Carrying Place hither for w^{ch} purpose [] or 800 Waggon will be necessary, & I shall upon Advice [] proper Guard to escort them. I have ordered all [] who command any of the Reinforcements coming to [] to take under their Convoy such Waggon as may [be] ready. The Commissaries are not able to procure Wag[gons] by their own Authority. I therefore call yours in [] assistance. I apprehend there are more Waggon to be had in the County of Albany than we want, but your Warrant empowers you to impress in the Neighbour[ing] Counties if found necessary. The

¹ By Wraxall.

want of Wag[gons] will I fear retard our proceedings w^{ch} may stop the Expe[dition]

Those Waggoners who have deserted I expect you will put into Jail without Exception as also all those who will not obey the Legal calls upon them and that in all respects you will exert yourselves to promote & forward His Majestys Service as you will answer the Contrary upon a Remonstrance that will be made

I am gentⁿ. &c.

I send from hence to Col. Cockcroft 22 French Pris^{rs}. there are 5 or 6 more at the Carrying Place w^{ch} Col Cockcroft will send along with these. You will please to give the officer a Receipt for them & provide Passage for 'em to New York except one ¹ who is to be deliv^d. to Cap^t. Corry [for?] the Indians.

To the MAYOR & MAGISTRATES
of the City of Albany

INDORSED: Generals Letter to the May^r.
& Magistrates of Albany
with Warrant for im-
pressing Waggon &c.

ON REVERSE SIDE OF LEAF ²

M. Le Baron De Diersau Marechal Des' Camp[s] et armées
envoyé en Canada pour Commander toutes Les troupes.

De Barnier Aide De Camp, Lieu^t reform[é] De royal
suedois ensuite placé a la suite De ulay Dartois

Translation

The Baron Dieskau, Major General, sent as commander in chief to Canada

De Barnier, Aid-de-camp, half-pay lieutenant of the Royal Swedish, later ranked in succession to Ulay Dartois

¹See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:55, for delivery of French prisoners to Indians.

²Memoranda jotted down, which have no reference to the document.

TO WILLIAM COCKCROFT

*Df.**Camp at Lake George <16 Sepr. 1755>*

SIR

Major Fitch will deliver you this. he Marches with the remainder of the 3 Companies of your Regiment. by the first opportunity I desire you will transmit me a general return of your Regmt. The French General and <his> Aid de Camp go under Major Fitchs Convoy. I repeat my desire that you will receive the General with all due respect and take care that he is so treated by every Body, dont let any one Croud about him to indulge their impertinent and ill mannered Curiosity. You will have a good Eye upon the Aid de Camp. I would have Capt. Schuyler and 50 good picked Men go with the Baron, his Aid de Camp and the Waggon verry early tomorrow Morning, for Albany and if possible to go thro in a day. Doctor Middleton is to accompany the Baron down to New York on their Arrival at Albany, Capt. Schyler is to conduct the Baron and his Aid de Camp to my House and it is my positive Order to Capt Schyler to keep the Baron and his Aid de Camp clear of the Mob and so to range his People and March them as to suffer no Person to come within them. Let Capt. Schyler deliver the Letter herewith to Capt. Marshall who I have desired to send a Sergt. and 6 Men as a constant Guard at my House till the General and his Aid de Camp imbark for New York. I think it will be proper to send a Capt. & <50> Men to reinforce Capt. Schylers Guard for 4 or 5 Miles from your Fort. let Capt. Schyler take particular care that the Aid de Camp cannot play him any trick and let him be well watched this night, he will sleep with the Baron and must no ways be bound. The Soldier who talks French is to attend and remain with the Baron.

I again recommend to You to keep your Troops in the best and most cautious posture of Defence and to preserve peace and

good order amongst them. I expect soon to give You further orders and am Sir

Your Most Hum Serv^t.

You will take care of the
Dispatch of all Waggon
going and coming.

To: COL. COCKCROFT

INDORSED: Gen^{ls}. Letter to Col. Cockcroft
with French General
16 Sep^r 1755.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

A letter of September 16th from Johnson to Sir Charles Hardy on the battle and conditions in the camp (Johnson Calendar, p. 49) is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1013–15.

TO HUBERT MARSHALL

Df.

Camp at Lake George 16 Sep^r. 1755

SIR

Cap^t. Schyler conducts the French General the Baron de Dieskau and his Aid de Camp to Albany and is to lodge them in my House, during their stay. I must desire You will order a Serg^t and 6 Men to be posted as Guards round my House not only as a Security upon the Aid de Camp but to prevent all manner of persons from coming to my house from that impertinent Curiosity which is so abounding at Albany and so little regulated by Decency and good Manners. You will please to give positive orders herin to your Serg^t. and Men — As soon as ever Doctor Middleton thinks the Baron may with safety take his Passage for New York I would have him and his Aid de Camp be sent forwards with a proper Guard on board the Sloop The Baron is a Man of Quality, a Soldier & a Gentleman and I

recommend him to any Civilities in your power to show him and which may contribute to his ease and Satisfaction. I am Sir

Your Most Hum Serv^t

To CAP^t. MARSHALL

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Gen^{ls} Letter to Cap^t
Marshall ab^t. French
Gen^l. 16 Sep^r. 1755

TO PETER MIDDLETON

Df.

<Camp at Lake George 16 Sep^r. 1755.>

<(1)>

As your present ill state of <health unfitts you for the discharge of> your Duty in this Army, you have my <Liberty to go down to> New York in order to promote your Recovery, as <soon as that takes> place you are to repair with all possible Dispatch to your <post in> the New York Regm^t. under my Command or to follow such fu<ture> Orders as you may receive from me relative therto.

(2)

You are to Accompany the Baron De Dieskau the Fre<nnch> General and to use your utmost skill and Diligence to get h<is> Wounds cured and to establish his Health

(3)

On your Arrivall at Albany you are to accompany the Baron and his Aid de Camp to my House and there attend him and not suffer the Curiosity or impertinence of any persons either to retard his Cure or offend him and I would have verry <few> persons admitted to talk either with him or his Aid de Camp <as> few of the Dutch Albanians as possible and I give you this Discretionary power in my house.

(4)

As soon as you think it is safe for the Barons health I would have you accompany him and his Aid de Camp to New York. On your Arrivall there have the General and Aid de Ca<mp> on Board with the Guard, wait on the Governour & acquaint him of their Arrivall that he may give his orders thereupon.

INDORSED: Instructions to Dr. Middelton

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.

[*Lake George 16 Sep^r. 1755*]

[] General Johnson

[] General Lyman

[] Ruggles

[] Blanchard

[] Gilbert

[] Bagly

Lieu^t Col. Pomeroy

Lieu^t Col. Whiting

Lieu^t. Col. Cole

Cap^t. Eyre Chief Engineer & Q^r M^r Gen^l.

[] Glazier Adjutant General

Cap^t Peter Wraxall Secr^y.

The General Acquainted this Council of War that the Occas[ion] of his calling them together was upon a Message bro^t to him by the Adjutant General from Maj^r Gen^l Lyman & some other Field Officers relative to moving the pres[ent] Encampm^t. to where the picketted Fort is now Building

The Council desired the Opinion of the Quarter-Master General upon the Advantages of the Two Situations & w^{ch}. he judged most eligible all circumstances considered.

He gave it in favour of remaining on our present Ground

This opinion was agreed to by this Council of War.

PETER WRAXALL

TO SPENCER PHIPS¹L. S.²*Camp at Lake George 17 Sep^r. 1755*

SIR

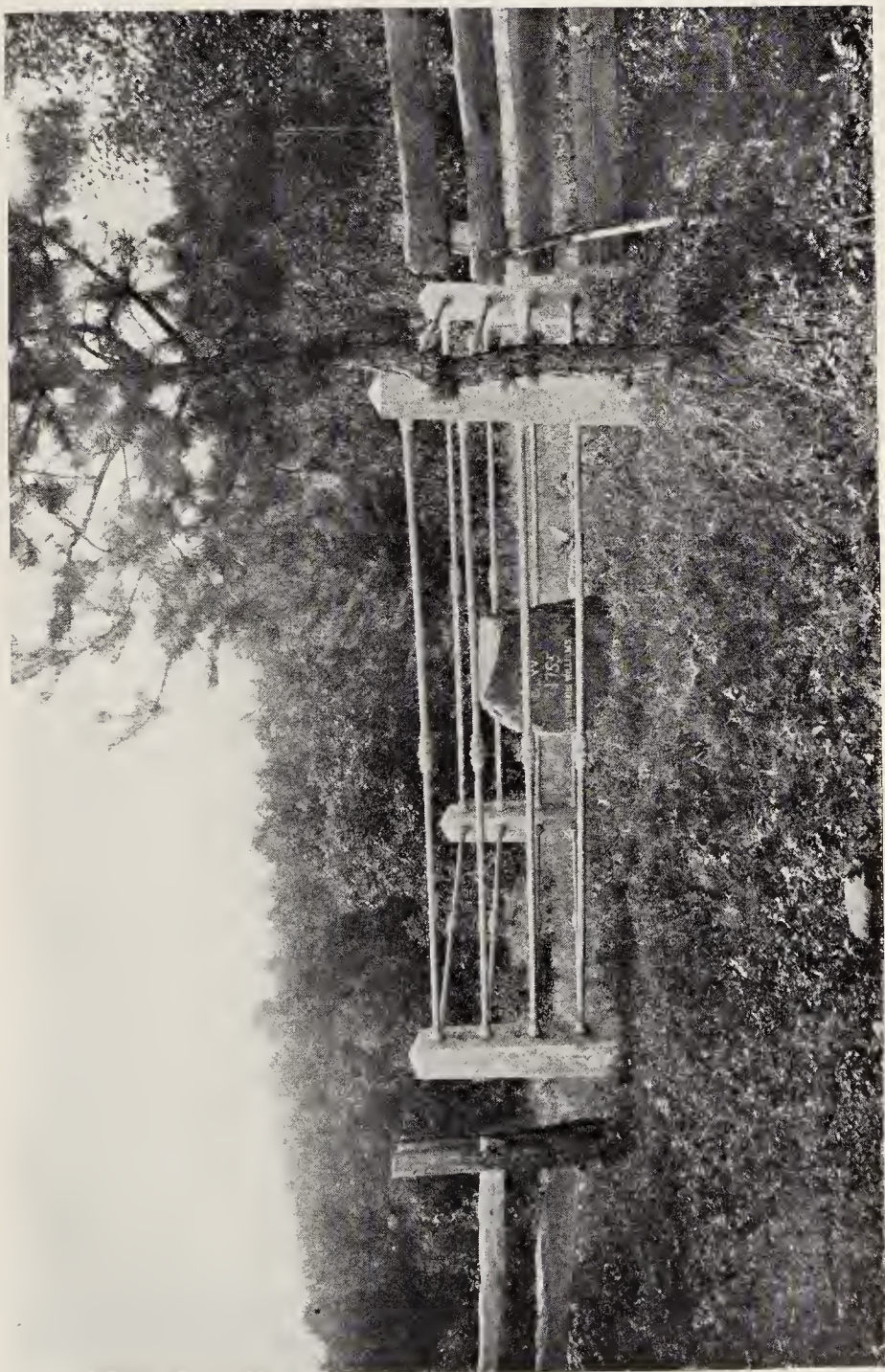
The 10th. Ins. I dispatched to You by Express an Account of Our Engagements with the Enemy on the 8th. I have reviewed that Letter. it was wrote at different times. Circumstances led us to expect a fresh Attack. two Alarms Actually happened during the time it was writing. An Army like Ours after such Events is not easily restored to a Calm. We were all fatigued both in Body and mind. In such a Scituation it was both difficult to collect and pen a distinct and exact Relation. However upon a Reexamination of the Copy of that Letter and a more mature Enquiry into the facts it contained, I found no essential Error — I sent at that time to the Lieu^t. Governour of New York the French Generals order of Battle found among his papers, which I suppose either by private Letter or publick prints you have seen. I Yesterday wrote a long Letter to the Governour of New York lately arrived, in which I remarked upon some Variations in the Accounts given in my aforesaid Letter to the several Governments transmitted to You, and gave him also some fresh Intelligence all which I desired he would and I doubt not he will Communicate to You and the other Governments.

One thing I omitted in that Letter. In my aforesaid General Letter, I said, that from the French Generals papers it appeared he brought with him into Canada from Europe 3171³ Regular

¹ Spencer Phips, whose name originally was Bennett, was the son of Dr David Bennett of Rowley, Mass.; his mother's name was Spencer. Spencer Bennett, on being adopted by his uncle, Sir William Phips, took by statute the family name of the latter. He was elected a councilor in 1722, and afterward reelected nine times. He was lieutenant governor of Massachusetts from 1732 to his death, which occurred on April 4, 1757. He administered the government from September 1749 to 1753, and in 1756 and part of 1757.— See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10:43 (note).

² In Massachusetts Archives. Manuscript in State Library damaged by fire.

³Cf Baron de Dieskau's Forces above.



COLONEL EPHRAIM WILLIAMS' GRAVE
About three miles south of Lake George

Troops — upon a further & more Accurate Inspection. I find that Account was taken from a blotted memorandum of his (which I sent to the Gov^t. of New York) and is the Amount of the Army under his Command, Regulars, Militia and Indians which were either at Crown Point or Ticonderogo, and from which he Detached the Body which we engaged. the Number of Regular Troops therein mentioned are above 700 — I believe he brought many more to Canada, part of which are sent to Cadarachqui and the other part kept to oppose us.

By the unfortunate Death of two Colonels and several Officers in the three Massachusetts Regiments there are sundry Vacancies — I was at a loss how to fill them up, whether by Seniority of Commissions from the three Regiments or by Succession out of each. I calld a Council of War who gave it in favour of the former Method which I have accordingly pursued pro tempore. If Your three Regiments are to be considered as three Batallions forming one Regiment and one Corps, the Vacancy must remain as adjusted for the present, to wit by Seniority of Commissions upon the whole — If they are distinct and Independant Regiments then by seniority in the respective Regiments where the Vacancies are. I have not yet given Commissions & shall not till you satisfie me in these points, and this you will please to do as soon as possible —

Our wounded for the most part, I am afraid will not be capable of Service this Season — Our Sick daily increase and as the Weather is of a Sudden become very wet and Cold I am afraid their Numbers will grow and indeed I am sorry to perceive and confess that our People in general, do not show that Spirit and alacrity which might have been expected from the Providential defeat of our Enemies and the prospect of the Business before us — smiles do not seem to dwell on their Countenances from the one, nor Ardor inspired for the other.

However I am Building large flat Bottomed Boats for our Artillery, have sent Spies to learn the posture of the Enemy — keeping Scouts to observe their Motions and putting everything in all the forwardness in my power If the expected reinforcements Arrive, & a sufficient Number of Waggon's can be got

from Albany to bring up our provisions and Stores from thence & the Carrying Place and Warm Cloathing sent. I hope the Mens Spirits will revive and the necessary Ardor be universal amongst us — I believe at present we are not more then between 18 and 1900 Men fit for duty with the 150 Men arrived from Your Government under Col. Whitcomb; none yet come from Connecticut or elsewhere. from New York I expect none. the Regiments are forced to borrow Bread from one another. Unless these things are put on a right footing very speedily the Season will be elapsed I am greatly distressed by the prospect and would be glad it was taken into Consideration and the Opinion of the Governments concerned sent me as soon as possible.

I should be more particular, but I desired Gov^r. Hardy to communicate what I wrote him to the rest of the Governments and my Scituation will not allow of Repetition

I am

Most Respectfully

W^m. JOHNSON

This Letter goes by Major Hoare who is a Gallant active officer & deserves preferment as much as anyone I know in our Army & I hope it will be in my power to give him one of the vacant Lieut Colonelships, I have put him in order

INDORSED: Lake George Septem^r.
17. 1755 Letter from
Maj^r. General Johnson
to Gov^r. Phips —

ADDRESSED: On His Majestys Service
To
The Honourable
Governor Phipps
at
Boston

TO ROBERT ORME

Df.¹

<Camp at Lake George 18 Sepr. 1755

DEAR SIR:

Two or three Days ago Your obliging favour of the 2d Inst from Philadelphia came to my hands.>

I am so situated & <in such Circumstances that it is impossible for me> to have suff^t time or make use of the <requisite Materials to return> you such an answer & send you such Papers <as I would wish to do. The> Military Department I am placed in, the <late visit from the Enemy> the apprehension of receiving another from them, <before we are> reinforced, the Dread of our wanting Provisions by being Disap<pointed of> Waggon, these in general & many other particular matters <w^{ch} require my> serious & constant attention, not only unfits me almost for any other Buisness but wholly engrosses my Time. In the next place the <Papers w^{ch}> I must have recourse to in order to comply with your Desires & my own Inclinations, I left at Albany lest the Fortune of War might throw them into the Enemy hands.

My proceedings in Indian Affairs by virtue of Gen^l Braddocks commission was sent down to New York & deposited in the hands of Mr. Banyar Deputy Secre^{ry} of the Province. upon your Application to him, he will furnish you with a Copy. All the other Papers are at Albany.

In order to give you a full view of Indian Affairs as they <stand> at present, we must look a great way back, I must have a number of Papers w^{ch} I can not come at & sit down for some Days to no other Employment. however this I would gladly do to furnish you with the necessary Mater<ials> for giving the Ministry an adequate Conception of them, tho they have had these materials put into their hands, w^{ch}. I believe have

¹ By Wraxall.

been <too> voluminous for their time & patience, & would make their way much better by your Conversation. As to the present Disposition of the Six Nations with regard to the British Interest, they were I am fully persuaded, after the late Meeting at my House, better disposed th<an> for these 40 years past. The loss w^{ch}. the Mohocks in particular have sustained by our late Engagements with the Enemy here, has more effectua<ly> wounded the French Interest among them & will by their Influence more weaken it among the other Confederate Nations, than any other Event w^{ch} could have been expected. The Cagnawagas whose attachment to the French & whose Influence over our Indians was a great prejudice to us, have behaved treacherously, & lost the<m> the Friendship & Confidence of the 6 Nations, who have very warmly accused them to me of a breach of Faith & Friendship, & earnestly desired, the Cagnawagas may never again be permitted to trade either at Albany or Oswego, the Cagnawagas are supported & the French enabled by these Trades to carry on their Indian Trade & Interest, so that if they are hereafter totally excluded from trading <at> these Places & especially at Albany, it will be a most powerful <meas>ure to weaken the French Indian Influence & increase our <own, but> such is the Mercenary Spirit of the Albanian Indian Traders <that unless the> Powers of Gov^t. be very vigorously & dilligently exert<ed, they will carry on this pernicious trade, & sacrifice the public Good to private advantage.

Another thing upon w^{ch} the securing & increasing our Indian Interest very greatly depends, is the Issue of our present armaments against> the French, if <we drop them or if we are not in a> great Measure Successful, our <Indians will dread as they> have long done the power of the French, & <think ours too weak> to be depended on and will therefore lean tow<ards the Fr>ench & tho not naturally inclined to it, pay Obedience <to them>

The Indians who were with me, did after our <late Engag>ements leave us & are gone home except 3 or 4 — this they



<assured> me was not from Fear or treachery, but in compliance with <their> constant Custom after a Battle wherein they had met with <any> loss, w^{ch} they did the 8 Inst, when a great many of their Chief <Sachems> & Warriors were killed by the Enemy, w^{ch}. has so far from cooled <them> that they are enraged to the highest Degree & detirmined to <pursue> the French with implacable Revenge & will I doubt not, return when we are ready to go forward. This is the fullest & best Account I am able to give you at present relative to <Indian> Affairs.

As to the Expedition we are engaged in the Difficulty of getting Waggons to bring our Provisions Stores &c. here in time the lateness of the Season, the want of sufficient reinforcements the Number of the Enemys Troops, their Strong & advantageōus holds between this & Crown Point, together with the present Sickness of our Army will I very much fear, stop our proceeding further this year unless a Winter expedition should be thought eligible.

Cap^t Eyre planned & in a great Measure under his Direction was finished, a respectable Fortification at the Great Carrying Place ab^t. 15 Miles from hence one of the great & most important passes between Canada & this Province — where we are now encampt is another equally important, but the Obstinacy & Ignorance of those officers by whose advice I am obliged to regulate my Proceedings, has prevented a Strong Fort being erected here however, I have wrote to the Gov^{ts} about it & I believe one will yet be made here — We shall then have a strong Curb upon Canada this way, & in case of a War, if the necessary steps are taken by <land> in these parts & a Fleet with some Troops sent up the River <St.> Lawrence towards or to Quebec & our Oppérations chime <together>, I cannot doubt but we might next year be Masters of Can<ada> put an End to the French Power this Way & be Masters of <the> invaluable Fur Trade &c. In this Scheeme I <include> our Oppérations from Oswego & particularly securing <the Navigation> of Lake Ontario.

I will not trouble you with <any Account of or any reflections upon General Shirley's Conduct with regard to Indian Affairs or his Behaviour to me. I think he has judged ill with regard to the one, & acted very ungentleman like with regard to the other.

I began a small collection for you. They are at my House, I > shall endeavour to <increase it & please God I return there I will> send you the little Cargo by some <Vessell to London.>

I look upon Evans's Map of N America <to be the best> extant.

Mr. Wraxall who is my Aid <de Camp & Sec>retary & also Judge Advocate, all without pay or Per<quisites t>akes Consequence to himself from the manner in w^{ch} you <are> pleased to mention him, & thinks the improbability of <his> seeing you in America a real loss to him, he desires you <will> accept of his Salutations & best Wishes. he is well known to <Mr> Fox & Lord Hallifax & if it falls in your way I wish you <would> mention him in an advantageous Manner to those Ge<ntⁿ> in my Name & as having great Merit with me.

I shall on my side & I hope you will on yours, support our Correspondence. I shall always esteem you in every Light & in every Situation. I wish you all imaginable Felicity & am unfeignedly Dear Sir

Your Affect. & obliged hum. Serv^t.

I have seen nothing of Mr. Shaw as yet, if he comes I shall upon y^r. recommendation give him what Encouragm^t. is in my power.

INDORSED: <General's Letter to Cap^t Orme> 18 Sep^r.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.

*Camp at Lake George 18 Sept 1755*At a Council of War held by Maj^r General Johnson

Prest

General Johnson

Lieu^t Col. PomeroyMaj^r Gen^l. LymanLieu^t. Col. Whiting

Col. Ruggles

Col Bagly

Col Blanchard

Lieu^t Col Cole

Col Gilbert,

Adjutant General

The General proposed for the Opinion of this Coun<cil> of War, whether considering our present Circumstances & our Sittuation with regard to the Enemy whom by intelligen<ce> there is some reason to think are not far off & may make another Attack, it is most adviseable to contract our present Encamp^t. or Decamp to the Ground where the picketted Fort is building.

It is the Opinion of this Council of War that the present Encamp^t. be kept with the follow^g Alterations That Col. Baglys & Col. Blanchards remove their Encamp^{ts} & the Flank Breast work to run along the Flank of Col. Ruggles's & the Rocky Eminance on the Left Flank if found adviseable to be left without the Breast works, w^{ch} alterations are to be immediately set about.

PETER WRAXALL A. D. Camp.

<The> General then desired this Council of War would <propose> any other Expedients w^{ch} might occur to them <besides> what were <already> taken to forward the present Expedition.

This Council of War are unanimously of Opinion that the car<rying> into speedy Effect this Expedition depends upon a <proper> Supply of Waggon & that all Measures w^{ch} can be thoug<ht> on have been already taken for obtaining them

PETER WRAXALL Secr^y

FROM ELEAZER FITCH

A. L. S.

<Great Carry Place Sep^r 19th: 1755>

SIR

I arrived Safe att the Fort <about 7 oClock in the evening> after I left the Camp. The French Gen^l went off <the next morning> under as comfortable Circumstances as could be expected, and <is doubtless> By this Time Safe in Albany, I have been very ill since <my> Arrival, which hope will Excuse my not writing you sooner. I find too much Truth in the hints which have been given your honour, nothing done nor like to be done. Cursing, Damning Swearing and drinking engrossing the chief of the Time. The contrast is so very great Betwixt the Two parties in the Reg^s. that every thing Labours with Difficulty. The Col^o. this morning has ordered all the invalids that are unfit for Service to be Stripped of all the Cloathing given them by the province, to be discharged and Sent off the Consequence of which must be that some of them must go naked and perish; Should be glad of your hon^s. advice whether their cloathing must be taken from them yea or nay, for I must confess that I cannot see it to be Just; tho' my Opinion has not been Ask'd; it is the universal voice of our three N England Companys, that they are willing to Stay here or go any where else so as they may but be disjoin'd; your honour will order as shall be thought most prudent

Remain your most Obedient humble Servant

ELEAZ^R. FITCH

P: S: desire my name may be so far Secreted that no personal Difference may arise Between my Sup^r. officer & me which I would by <all> means avoid

<WILLIAM> JOHNSON Esqr

ADDRESSED: To Maj^r. Gen^{ll}. W^m. Johnson Esqr
att Lake George

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹*Camp at Oswego Sept^r. 19th. <1755>*

<SIR>

Three Days ago I receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Stevenson of Albany inclosing a Copy of the General Letter, w^{ch}. you have Sent to L^t. Gov^r. Phipps & the Governors of the other Colonies, w^{ch}. have rais'd Forces for the Expedition against Crown point, giving an Acco^t. of two Actions, w^{ch}. happen'd on the 8th. Instant, between the Army under your Command and the French; in the first of w^{ch}. a Detachment of 1000 English commanded by Col. Williams, & a Party of 200 Indians of the six Nations were defeated with a considerable Loss on their Side; In the second, the French & their Indians attack'd the main Body of your Army in their Camp at Lake George, & were repuls'd with a more considerable one on their's.

Mr: Stevenson informs, me that upon finding, I had no Letter directed to me among the Packetts, which came from your Camp, & discovering the Words upon the Seal Side of that directed to Gov^r. Phipps; "please to dispatch a Copy of this Letter to General Shirley, my time & Circumstances won't permit <my> writing to him immediately," he open'd it, & took a Copy of it, to be sent forthwith to me; & as the Events contain'd in it so nearly concern his Majesty's Service under my immediate Command, as well as his other Service upon this Continent under my Direction, I can't avoid expressing my Surprize at your Omission to acquaint me with them directly from yourself; which, let your Hurry & Circumstances be what they would, you might at least have done, by ordering your Secretary or any Clerk to transcribe a Copy of your Letter to the Gov^{rs}: to be Sent me from Albany, instead of desiring L^t. Gov^r. Phipps to Send me one from Boston.

What could be your Reason for postponing my being

¹Also in Massachusetts Archives, 54:136-41 inc., and extract in Public Record Office, C. O. 5.46, London, England. Printed with certain errors and omissions: *R. I. Col. Rec.* 5:455.

acquainted with these Matters, which I ought to have known as soon as possible, to so distant a time as my hearing from Mr. Phipps must have been, seems difficult to say.

However that may be, my Duty to his Majesty requires me to take the first Opportunity of transmitting you my Sentiments upon the present State of the Service, w^{ch}. I have put under your immediate Direction.

Upon the State of your Letter to the several Governors, <Sir> it appears to me that the late Defeat of the French Forces and their Indians in the Engagement at your Camp hath given you a favourable Opportunity of proceeding, as soon as the expected Reinforcement from New England shall join you, to Tenonderoge which Post, since you have taken the Route to Crown point, that you have done, it is of the utmost Consequence to the Success of the Expedition under your Command to make yourself Master of as soon as possible.

By the Acco^t. given in the Copy of the Minute of your Council of War inclos'd to me in your Letter of the 1st. Instant, concerning the Strength of your Army a few Days before the late Actions, and in your Letter to the Governors, of the loss, you sustain'd in both Engagements, the Number of your remaining Troops must, upon the Arrival of your Reinforcement from New England. exceed 4000, and that of your Indians be upwards of two hundred.

From the Acco^t. given you by the French General your prisoner, of the Strength of his Army in the beginning of the first Action it consisted of 200 Grenadiers, 800 Canadeans, and <700> Indians of different Nations, and from the Acc^t. given you by his Aid de Camp of the loss of the French & their Indians in both Actions, and the pursuit w^{ch}. ensu'd, they lost in the whole 1000 Men, and the Major part of their Chief Officers, together with Mons^r: St Pierre the Officer, who had the Chief Command & greatest Influence over the Indians; so that according to their Acc^{ts}., w^{ch}: seem most to be depended upon, the French had not above 700 Men left of their whole Army, w^{ch}: attack'd your Camp.

In these Actions, Sir, you have experienc'd the good Behaviour of your Officers and Troops, who must now be flush'd wth. their late Victory. The French on the other hand must be greatly disconcerted by the late Defeat of their Army, & loss of their General & so many of their principal Officers; and the French Indians in particular (w^{ch}: consist of different Nations) by the loss of Mons^r. St. Pierre, who seems to have been a necessary Officer for keeping them together.

You before acquainted me in your Letter of the 1st. Instant from your Camp at Lake George that “some Indians, you sent out on the Scout, told you, they had discover'd a <Party of> French and Indians at Tenonderoge, But that no works <were> then thrown up; and that you was impatient to get a Number of Battoes up & put in order, when you propos'd to proceed with a part of the Troops and endeavour to take post at Tenonderoge:” I hope, Sir, if that is not yet done, that you still propose doing it as soon as possible; The Necessity of driving the Enemy from that Pass still continues; The longer time is given them to fortify it, the more difficult it will be to dislodge them, and the more you will lose the Advantage, w^{ch}. their Defeat, and your own Victory have given you to effect it.

You say in your Letters to the Governors, “your Men have suffer'd so much Fatigue for three Days past, & are constantly standing upon their Arms by Day, half the whole upon Guard every Night, & the Rest lay down arm'd and accoutred, that both Officers & Men are almost wore out; That the Enemy may rally, & you judge they have considerable Reinforcements near at hand, so that you think it necessary to be upon your Guard, and be watchfull to maintain the Advantage, you have gain'd.”

To make the most of the Advantage, you have gain'd, <it seems> clear, Sir, that you should make use of the Opportunity <it> hath given you of proceeding upon your Expedition, whilst the Spirits of your own Army are elated with Success, & those of the Enemy lower'd by the loss of the greatest part of theirs.

As to your Apprehensions, that the Enemy might rally, & that they had considerable Reinforcements near at hand; it is mention'd in your Letter that your Men and Indians pursu'd the French soon after their Repulse, slaughter'd great Numbers, and took several prisoners, among whom was the French General himself, so that their Army was intirely routed; & your's Masters of the Field: Rallying the second Day after so general a Route as this, is, I believe, unknown in the Case even of great Armies; and that the small Remains of the French Army should return the next Day to the Attack of your Camp, where they had so lately felt the Effects of your Cannon against their Musquetry, seems not much to be apprehended: It is more probable that the Slaughter, they had suffer'd in the pursuit, with the loss of their Chief Officers, will in the End occasion, if not a total Dissipation of the Indians, yet at least <a> great Desertion among them, and of the Canadeans too.

Upon what Foundation you judge, that the French Army had considerable Reinforcements near at hand, is not mention'd in your Letter, it seems more likely, that they sent all the Forces, they could spare from Tenonderoge & Crown point (where you say so many of the Regular Troops are posted) to attack your Camp; especially as they were to do it only with Musquetry.

You say further in your Letter to the Governors, "that from the Papers of Mons^r. Dieskau, the French General, you find, he brought under his Command to Canada in the Men of War lately arriv'd at Quebec 3171 Regular Troops, who are partly in Garrison at Crown point, & encamp'd at Tenonderoge, & other advantageous Passes between your Camp and Crown point."

"That you expect very Shortly another & more formidable Attack, & that the Enemy will then come with Artillery; That the late Col. Williams had the Ground clear'd for building a Stockaded Fort, and that your Men are so harrass'd and oblig'd to be so constantly upon watchfull Duty, that you <think> it would be both unreasonable, &, you fear, in vain to set <the>m at Work upon the Design'd Fort.



COLONEL WILLIAMS' MONUMENT

About three miles south of Lake George

“That you design to order the New Hampshire Regiment up to your Camp to reinforce you, & that you hop’d some of the design’d Reinforcement would be with you in a few Days, & that when those fresh Troops arriv’d, you should immediately set about building a Fort.”

I hope you will before now have receiv’d my Letter of the 12th. Inst^l. in which I sent you an Acco^t. from Admiral Boscawen’s Letter to the late General Braddock, of the Number of Troops, w^{ch}. were sent from France this Summer to North America, & what part of them arriv’d in Canada; w^{ch}. will shew you that there must be some Mistake in the above Account extracted by you from Mr. Dieskau’s Papers, of the Number of those, w^{ch}. arriv’d with him at Quebec: It is clear from this Acco^t. that the whole Number sent from France was, as Mr. Dieskau’s Papers make ’em to be, about 3000; & by other undoubted Acc^{ts}., as well as the Admiral’s, that of these he took eight Companies in the Alcide & Lys Men of War, & that 1100 are in Garrison at Louisbourg: now supposing <that> the Remainder arriv’d at Quebec without any loss in their Passage (w^{ch}. is not very likely) the most, that got to Quebec must be 1675; five hundred at least of which I have Intelligence from Indians, who came here from Cadaraqui at different times within these five Weeks, & a Party of Indians & Albany men, whom I Sent there since that time, are now encamp’d close to that Fort, & a Number of them were kill’d (according to your own Acc^t.) in the late Attack upon your Camp & the pursuit, w^{ch}. ensu’d; so that the Remainder, supposing them to be now, as you say, partly in Garrison at Crown point, & encamp’d at Tenonderoge; and other advantageous passes between your Camp & Crown point, can’t amount to near the Number, w^{ch}. you seem to think are there.

I can’t therefore but think, you may spare from the Fort at the Carrying place, & from your Camp at Lake George, a Body of Troops more than sufficient to drive the French from Tenonderoge, & possess yourself of that pass; & hope you will lose no time for doing it.

If Crown point is inaccessible to the Army now with you thro' the Route, you have taken to it, it will proba<bly> be more so to double the Number of Troops the next year, and must be come at thro' another Route; in w^{ch}. Case the Fort, you design to build at the End of the Lake will be of little or no Utility for carrying on another Expedition, & but of very little, even for the Defence of the Country between Lake George, late Lake St Sacrement, & Hudson's River, whilst two Roads lye open for the French to make Incursions into it; viz^t. thro' Wood Creek and the South Bay, the latter of w^{ch}. they have lately made use of to come at both your Camps.

As to your Expectation of a more formidable Attack very Shortly from the Enemy; and that they will then come with Artillery; I suppose that Artillery must be brought from Crown point or Tenonderoge: and if the French should imagine, that you design to attempt nothing further this Campaigne than building the Stockaded Fort, you propose, I think it probable enough, that they may make you a Visit at your Camp with Cannon; in which Case I doubt your Fort, when built, would not Stand long.

But I believe the thoughts of the French are <at> present taken up in securing themselves against a Visit <from> you at Crown point; which I hope may be still made them this Year with Success; & that to enable you the better to do it, the Colonies may Send you a second Reinforcement in time.

I am sorry to hear that you receiv'd a Wound in the late Engagement, and hope that the Ball is by this time extracted from your Thigh, & your Wound in a fair Way of healing: I congratulate you upon your Success hitherto, & wish it may be increased in the remaining Operations of the Campaigne, and am, Sir,

Your most Humble Servant.

W SHIRLEY.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

FROM STEPHEN WEBSTER

L. S.

*Laſe St. George Sep^r. y^e 19, 1755*HON^d. S^r.

agreeable to and in obedience to your Command I began to Build Scows or flatt Bottom [] to transport the Canon & war like Stores &c to [Crown] Point and Drew a List of thirty Six Carpenters out [of] Coll: Bagleys Reg^t. which work'd several Days and [ex]pected to be Excused from millitary Duty so Long as [they] worked with me, but since their officers have Put them on other Duty they Refuse to work as Carpenters. [] I have not a man att work as a Carpenter and therefore Cannot go on with y^e above s^d. Busness Therefore I Beg your Hon^r. would suply me with a Sufficent num[ber] of Carpenters or I Cannot Proceed.

STEPHEN WEBSTER

Cap^t of y^e Carpend[ers]To the Hon^{bl}. WILL^m. JOHNSON Esq^r.and General of y^e Army

FROM WILLIAM COCKCROFT

A. L. S.

*Fort Lyman 20th. Sept^r. 1755¹*S^r.

Inclosed I have sent you a Return of the [] my command, should have sent you one before, could I [] from y^e different Companys before. The Gen^l. his Ade Camp & the other french Prisoners (Except three who are dangerously [] are Sent to Albany. the others I will send as soon a possible. I could get no Intelligence from any prisoners.

¹ In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1008-9, is a letter of September 20th from Thomas Pownall, in New York, to the lords of trade, containing an account of Captain McGinnis's victory on September 8th.

If you'll be pleased to give orders y^t. the waggoners who return from the Lake to load their Waggon with Stones for they will be of great use here if there be any Chimneys or Barracks to be [bui]lt, we have several men I intend to discharge for they are at an Expence to the Province & of no service to the Regiment. I am Sr.

Y^r. most Obed^t. Serv^t.

WM. COCKCROFT.

ADDRESSED: To Maj^r. General Johnson
at Lake George

INDORSED BY WRAXALL: Col. Cockcroft 20 Sep^r.

rec^d d^o

Ans^d. 21 d^o

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

<Albany, 21st. Sep^r. 1755>

<DEAR SIR>

I most cordially congratulate you on your Success > it will I hope be a prelude to a more general <Victory> that may put you in Possession of what you <aim at. Your> Wound I hope will not be troublesome to you or prevent your > going on; nor will you be detained I believe any longer time > for Waggon, which the Governor's presence and vigorous <orders> will soon bring in. I wrote you before that the Lt. Gov. Mr. Rutherford and Mr. Horsmanden attend Sr. Charles, whose Secretary, Mr. O DeLancey, & myself make up the whole Train. Before I left New York, I fell into Conversation wth Mr. Pownall, who I find is very desirous if he goes home to carry your dispatches, and that you should refer their Lordships to him for any Explanations you may think necessary, or in any other way you think best. It will be of some use to him, and you will receive every Act of

Friendship in his Power, by the strongest Representation of your Services to the principal Men he may have an opportunity of conversing with. I find your character and Consequence are both well known at home, and St Charles makes no doubt of the Ministrys getting you an appointment equal to your great Merit. He seemed much pleas'd that you had undertaken Indian affairs on so disinterested a Footing, & that it would in the End redound greatly to your advantage. The New England Men are constantly coming in. I am surprised to hear those from Conn^t. bring nor expect any Tents, depending on Bark Houses which I am told the New Hampshire People are very expert at, & when they decamp roll up the Bark & carry with them. The Season is late & as you observe the utmost dispatch requisite. Dunbar is moving this way but it is doubtful if he may arrive in time to sustain you. His regulars & Engineers &c would be extremely serviceable, But how will you manage it as to the Command. He is of a disposition <I hear not to give up a Point; and I doubt if the Irregulars will be imp>atient to attack <Troops intrench'd up to> their Eyes which I expect they <will be at> Crown Point. At Tionderogue I expect their wh<ole Army> saving a few to garrison the Fort. I hope the Can<non are> to be mounted in the Scows you are building, as y<ou may> rely on being opposed at your landing any where.

I beg my respects to Cap^t. Wraxall & Cap^t. Eyre. The Gov. has bro^t. up a parcel of Musket Bullets, if your Grape Shott are expended these may do. Youl write for wh<at> you want. I am dear Sr. with the greatest Sincerity yours &c

GW BANYAR

Pray did the Rope arrive safe

<GENERAL> JOHNSON

INDORSED: 7^{br}. 21st. 1755 Banyars letter

TO WILLIAM COCKCROFT

Df.¹Camp at Lake George 21. Sep^r. <1755>

<SIR>

Last night I recd y^{rs} of yesterday. There are so many sto<res to be> bro^t. up & so much Work for the few Waggon^s w^{ch} are sent from Alb<any &> their present Employment so very necessary to the Service, that we must not yet take them off for any other Work. I am very desirous of <having> the Fort (to w^{ch}. I give the name of *Fort Edward* in hon^r. to the Second Pri<nce> of the Blood of that name) finished & I desire you will contribute to <it> all that is in the Power of the Troops under your Command.

I approve of your discharging such Men as are only an Exp<ense> to the Province & no Service to the Reg^t. their Arms you will keep; give them their Cloathing, w^{ch} cannot I think with Jus<tice> or propriety be taken from them, & if any pay be due to them give them a Certificate for it.

I propose very speedily to remove part of your Reg^t. hither & replace them by Detachm^{ts}. or Troops from hence.

I once more desire you will employ all the Men who <are> not upon necessary Duty in compleating the Fort all in their Power & give its Name out in Orders. keep advanced Sentries Alert & small Scouting parties for two or three miles round you.

I am Sir Your Hum Serv^t.

To COL. COCKCROFT

¹ By Wraxall.

TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF REINFORCEMENTS

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 21 Sep^r. 1755.

SIR

By the Advice of the Council of War here, I am desired to direct & I do it accordingly, that no more of the Reinforcements sent from your Government may leave Albany till further Orders, than such a part of them as are necessary to Guard the Stores & Provisions w^{ch}. may be dispatched from Albany hither. You will please to take Notice hereof & govern yourself accordingly. I am Sir Your very hum Serv^t.

W^m JOHNSON

To the Commanding officer of the Reinforcements for the Crown Point Expedition belonging to the Gov^t. of the Massachusetts Bay.

A Letter of the same Tenor & date was wrote to the Commanding Officer of the Connecticut Reinforcements

GENERAL JOHNSON TO COMMISSARIES²

[Lake George, Sept 21, 1755]

[:]³
 [] [di]rections, you []
 [] fore those w^{ch} are or may [be able to send] [such?]
 Stores & Provisions as can be loaded [on horses]
 You will please to take due notice here []
 []ur selves accordingly.—
 [To?] I am
 [C]ommissaries of the Several Gentlemen
 [G]overnments concerned in Your very hum s[]
 the present Expedition against W^m JOHN[SON]
 Crown Point.

¹ By Wraxall.

² Draft in handwriting of Wraxall.

³ Several lines burned off.

FROM JAMES DE LANCEY¹A. L. S.¹*Albany 21 Sept^r 1755*

SIR

I am come up to this place to attend Sir Charles Hardy & take this opportunity to congratulate you on the victory you have obtained over the French, I hope this will prove the prelude to greater success. The Governor sends you a copy of one of the French Generals letters, wherein he does justice to the Civilities he has recieved from you. You will see by it that the Caghna-wagas are not altogether in the power of the French & you will consider what methods may be the most proper to draw them over to us & persuade them to return to their Brethren in this Province. The Govenor is sensible of your merit & influence with the Indians & will do you justice at home on this article. I shall always be ready to do you any service being Sir

Your most humble servant

JAMES DE LANCEY

My compliments to Cap^{ts} Eyre & Wraxall & congratulate them on this Event. I shall write to Wraxall. I suppose tomorrow

J D L

GEN^{LL} JOHNSON

FROM OLIVER DE LANCEY

A. L. S.

*Albany y^e 21 [September 1755.]*DEAR S^R

I have only time to Congratulate you on the Glor[ious] Success your Army has enjoy'd under your Direction [] to your own Great Glory

¹In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

It gave me very sensible satisfaction to Hear from our friend Doctor Middleton that the Wound you received was not Dangerous and that you are in a Condition to Conduct The Forces I hope to future success and Dont Doubt it from so happy a beginning I should be glad to Receive any Intelligence your time will permit you to Communicate I am here with S^r Charles Hardy who is Come Merely to forward the Service you are Engaged in and seems quite bent to Do every thing in His Power to secure you future success & Honor Make My Compliments to Ayres Wraxall & Other friends I am in haste and Only time to say How Much success I wish you being with sincerity S^r

Your Humble Ser^t

OLIVER DE LANCEY

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: 7^{br}. 21st. 1755

Oliver De Lanceys letter.

TO HUBERT MARSHALL

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George

21 Sep^r 1755

SIR

Last night I was favoured with yours of the 12 Inst.

I am very much obliged to you for your Congratulations on our repulsing the Enemy. Providence was very favourable to us & to Heaven I think is due the principal share of Glory.

Time would not permit me to give any one in Albany a particular Relation of that Days Actions if it had I should have done it to you in the First place as his Majestys Commanding officer there. I did not doubt, w^{ch} I find was the Case, but the Relation woud come as soon from some others who were on the Spot.

¹In Ayer Collection, Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.

I have my hands so very full of Business that it will not permit me to enlarge. My best wishes attend you & your Family.

I am Sir

Your most hum sevt

Capt Eyre & Wraxall
beg their Compliments
may be accepted by you
& yours.

To CAPT MARSHALL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.

<Head Quarters:

Camp at Lake George 21 Sep^r. 1755
Sunday P. M.

At a Council of War held by General Johnson

Pres ^t General Johnson	<Lieu ^t Col.> Whiting
Major General Lyman>	<Lieu ^t > Col. Cole
<Col. Rug>gles	<Lieu ^t > Col. Whitcomb
<Col. B>lanchard	Mr Glazier adjutant Gen ^l .
<Col. B>agly	Cap ^t Eyre Quarter Mr. Gen ^l &c.
<Col. G>ilbert	

Cap^t Peter Wraxall Secr^{ry}. &c.

<1st. Article> The General acquainted this Council of War that from vari<ous> accounts he had received he had reason to believe that there was <not> that Harmony amongst the Troops at the Fort at the Great Carr^g. Place w^{ch}. he judged necessary to subsist in order for the Security of & carrying on the Service depending on that important Post &, therefore judged <it> necessary that some alterations should be made with respect to <that> Garrison & desired the Opinion of this Council of War hereupon.

2^d. article That as some Members of this Council of War had yesterday mentioned to the General something of a Scheme of bringing up some of the Stores on Horses back as the most Expeditious Method he desired that Method might be now considered & if thought adviseable whether the General should be desired to give any Orders thereupon.

Upon the First Article this Council of War are of opinion that the 5 Companies raised in the Province of New York in the Reg^t under the Command of Col. Cockcroft be removed from the Fort at the Great Carrying Place to this Camp, but the Council were equally divided in their Opinions whether they should be replaced by a Reg^t. or Detachments from home.

Upon the Second Article the Council are of Opinion that the General be desired to write to all the Commissarys at Albany to emp<loy> as many Horses as can be got w^{ch}. can be over & above those w^{ch}. are or may be emplo<yed> in Waggon, to bring up such Stores & Provisions as can be loaded on Horses.

The Council further advised that Gen^l. should stop the Reinforcements sending hither, at Albany, till further Orders unless such Convoys as are necessary to Gu<ard> the Waggon coming from Albany hither.

PETER WRAXALL

JOHN RUTHERFURD TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Extract*¹

Extract of a Letter from John Rutherford Esq^e. Captain of one of the New York Independent Companies, & Member of His Majesty's Council for that Province — Dated at Albany 22^d: September 1755 —

There is such various Accounts of the late Engagement at Lake George, that I shall give your Excellency in a few words,

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 46, London, England. Inclosed in Shirley to Sir Thomas Robinson, October 5, 1755.

what I think I can trust most to in our own Officers accounts of the English, & Le Baron Dieskau's account of the French, who is a Marechal de Camp, & Commandr. in Chief of those Troops sent from Brest, and, as His Aid D Camp tells us, of all the Forces in Canada: He was wounded, & made Prisoner, with 30 more, mostly wounded, after y^e retreat of the French; His wounds are very dangerous, but y^e Surgeons have some hopes of His recovery. Coll: Johnson might have about 2500 Men at y^e Camp — Includeing Indians, & 500, at the Carrying Place Fort. the Baron's account of Troops brought from Montreal, to Crown Point & Tinonderogue is as follows, with y^e detachment he carry'd from thence with Him to reconnoitre y^e Carrying Place, & endeavour to surprize our Fort, not being able to gett Satisfactory Intelligence from the Indian Parties he had sent out.

Troops brought from Canada	The Detachment w th . the
2 Battallions 774	Baron at the Engagement on
Milices 1393	the Carrying Place, and At-
Troupes de la Colonie. 192	tack upon the English Camp
Cannoniers 67	on Lake George.
Officiers des Sauvages. 14	Troupes regleés 200
Sauvages 659	Canadiens >>>>. 600
—————	Sauvages 600
3099	—————
	1400

The two Battallions of 774 men, were of those newly arrived from Brest, as were the 200, call'd regular Troops in the detachment: the Baron march'd towards our Fort with His detachment, but changed his mind on a Post being kill'd, and some Waggoners taken, by whose letters & Information he found General Johnson was encamp'd at the Lake, & finding 1000 Men, & y^e Indians were comeing to assist those at the Fort from y^e Camp, he march'd towards y^e Camp, & made a very pretty deposition to surprize & cutt them off, viz^t. the 1000 Men; but the Caghnawaga's, who y^e Baron insists were Traitors to Him

all along, discover'd themselves before y^e Time; however as Gen^l. Johnson's party retreated in confusion, after a few fires, the Baron follow'd them close in hopes of entering with them into y^e Camp; but He mett with such a warm Reception from the Cannon, and Deserted by His Indians, & most of the Canadeans, That His Regulars were mostly all kill'd, and Himself wounded and made Prisoner.

I am &c —

a true Copy

W^m ALEXANDER Sec^y.

INDORSED: Extract of a Letter from
Captain Rutherford to
Major General Shirley
dated Albany Sept^r.
22^d. 1755.
N^o. 5.
in Maj^r. Gen^l. Shirley's
Letter of Oct^r. 5th: 1755

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

<Camp at Lake George, 22 Sep^r. 1755.>

<SIR

My last to Your Excellency bore date the 10th Inst. with a particular acc^t. of the Actions of the 8th do. That day & its Consequences throw our irregular army into a good deal of Confusion. As some of the Prisoners> reported a Bo<dy of 1000 Men more were marching from Tionde>roge & as all Circumstanc<es required a prudential Caution, for 2 or 3> days after we kept our Selves in a Sta<te of Preparation, b how- ever,> heard no more of the Enemy, tho we <had several false alarms from the> apprehensions of our own People; these <things together with taking> Care of our Wounded burying

¹ By W^raxall.

the Enemies as well <as our own, repair>ing & Strengthening our Breast Work, filled up <our Employment for> many Days.

I herewith transmit your Excellency <Return of the> killed, Wounded & Missing from the Morning & ¹Engagement of the 8.—I am apt to believe tho most Opinions <are to> the contrary that the Enemys loss is not greatly superior to ours.

We have the honour of taking Prisoner their General & Commander in chief of the French Kings Troops in Canada, <the> Baron De Dieskau, whom at his own request tho badly <Wounded> I sent to Albany in a Horse Litter his Wound has pierced his Blad<der> & I fear will prove Mortal, he bore his Fate like a Philosop<her a> Soldier & a Gentleman. his Aid de Camp who surrendered <himself> is gone with him, & from this Camp & Fort Edward at the Great Carrying Place (w^{ch} I have so named in honour to our young Prince of that name) about 25 Prisoners, several taken died of their Wo<unds> and it was with great Difficulty I prevented our Indians from <knocking> the General & all in the head.

To my great Mortification, I must confess to you, that Notwithstanding the Providential repulse we gave to the Enemy, Our Troops are so far from being invigorated thereby or filled with <any> Additional Ardor for pursuing the Main Plan, that the reverse <of> this has been evidently the Case almost ever since. The ²resolute & obstinate Attack made upon our Breast work in the Face of our Cannon seems to have given our Troops a dread of the Enemy. We have had wet & cold days since, the Men are thinly ²ill bedded & Tented were pretty much fatigued, by the Engag<ment.> by the false alarms & precautions taken afterwards, Bad weather, ²Life to w^{ch} they are wholly Strangers, Sickness since the 8. greatly incre<ases> amongst; Winter at no great Distance, Family tyes, In short all ²Causes put together, have so influenced our Men that they are by <no> Means inclined to proceed

¹ Word omitted as illegible in copying; it is undoubtedly "afternoon."

² Omitted in copying.

further & I have reason to believe many of their officers of the same Mind. I have called a Council of War & given therein an opening to be let into the true State of things, but tho m<any> of the Members spoke plain enough without Doors, they gave an Opinion in Council in favour of pushing the Expedition forwards, & <tho some> of the Members moved for it yet Inquiries w^{ch} would <have put> matters in a true Light were over-ruled. Tis true the <Desertion and want of Waggons for some time past, had none of the foregoing Incidents taken place would have so retarded our Operations, that had we been suff^t in number, the true Season for pushing our Designs would have been greatly elapsed. Before the Visit paid us by the Enemy I had sent to reconnoitre Tionderogo & if the French had not taken post there, I had Battoes bro^t up & did intend to have embarked myself with a chosen part of the Troops & tried to taken possession.

But the Enemy & consequent Inte>lligence have <put an End to that Scheme, for they> have not only a number of Forces there, <but thrown up Strong works, & h>ave a Vessel w^{ch} sails & brings all sor<ts of Supplys from Crown Po>int thither, and I have some reason <from Intelligence to believe> they have a Body of Men between this & Ti<onderogue at South Bay the only place> we hear favorable to our Landing. It is impossible for me <to conseal these> Intelligences from the Troops, tho I am convinced it <tends to weaken their> Expedition Appetite.

Two or three days after our late Engagements the <Indians> were preparing to leave this Camp & told me they desired a M<eeting> & would Acquaint me with their Resolutions & Motives. I inclos<e yr> Excellency what passed on this Occasion. They told me in private <that> one very prevailing Motive for their going was that as the Sword <was> now drawn between them & the French Indians, they thought <it> absolutely necessary to return home, consult with their People, put themselves in a posture of Defence & would then return at

my Call. They also complained to me that our People left them exposed to the Enemy in the Morning & did not second them.

I hope the Gov^t. of New York will exert itself to put an absolute End to that pernicious Trade between Albany & Canada by the Means of the Cagnawagas. I shall write or speak my Sentiments warmly & freely to Sr. Charles Hardy upon it.

The 24. Sep^r. Last night I recd. y^r. Excell^ys. Letter bearing date the 12 Inst. This Letter waited a Secure Opportunity to be finished & forwarded, as parties of the Enemy are hovering about us I have not sent any publick Dispatches of moment for many Days past. I am sensible of & have a fellow feeling in your Excell^ys Fatigues & Disappointments. I did not get a Waggon from the Mohocks or that part of the Country, & tho many more than I wanted were in being in the other parts of the County of Albany, yet I was al<ways> distressed by the want of them & plagued to Death with what <I had.>

The Reinforcements particularly from Connecticut <are coming> thick upon us, by fresh Numbers they are Welcome, but as hu<ngry> Guests who with our old People consume Provisions as fast as the Waggons bring them, they in that point will if we are to pro<ceed> retard us.

I shall as fresh Matter of any Importance, or New <Motions> take place, embrace every Opportunity of advising you.

From all that I am able to Collect, Baron D<ieskau> bro^t with him to Canada ab^t. 1500 regular Troops, <half of w^{ch}> he retained to oppose us, & dispatched the other <half to oppose y^r Excellency.

I will send you herewith the Copy of a rough Memorand^m I found amongst some lose Papers of his since I wrote you last, & w^{ch} I take to be in his own hand writing, & to be an Acc^t of the Troops at Tionderogo when he was Encampt there. It has neither place nor date to it. His Order of Battle when he marched against us I sent to the Lieu^t> Gov^r. of new <York as a matter more of amusement than of Importance.> he wrote

two Letters to the <French Ministry before he left> this Camp in w^{ch} he puts down his Num<bers, 200 Grenadiers, 600> Canadians & 600 Indians.

I herewith send y^r Excell^y. a Copy of General <Brad->
do ¹> Commission & Instructions to me.

Two days ago I recd. a Letter from S^r Charles Har<dy,
¹> of New York advising me of his Arrival at Albany in ord<er to> forward his Majesty's Service in both Expeditions. he has ¹& send us Waggon almost every day. I have gently press<ed hm> to come hither, as I cannot in prudence lay the whole of my pr<esent> Situation in writing before him, neither will my time perm<it it.> If he cannot come, I must I believe send my Aid de Camp & <Sec^{ry} to> him with my Sentiments &c.

My Council of War are playing Politicks upon <me;> some of them have unadvisedly pressed for numerous reinforcements<ts,> unknown to me & promised Matters I believe beyond what Cir<cum>stances did Justifie & our present Situation renders even pro<bable,> hence they are unwilling to own in Council what they see & know & even speak of in private Conversation. They have opposed with <great> Obstinacy the building a respectable Fort at this important Post, w^{ch} whether the Expedition goes on or not, would in my Opinion have been a very prudent Measure, they declared any other <than> a Stockaded Fort would breed a general Dissatisfaction thro the Army & in Short that the People would work at no other. So <tha> I was over-ruled & obliged to consent to Stockades w^{ch} is in hand <but> when it will be finished I know not. If Gov^r. Hardy comes <here,> I hope to get a strong place of Defence yet erected. Many <days> ago It was agreed in Council of War & I ordered the Breast ² the Camp to be repaired & Strengthened — tis not yet done, tho ¹ days work to the Troops off Duty — A Cap^t & 50 Men whom I <ordered> out to stay 5 days as a Scout of Observation &

¹ Omitted in the copy.

² Omitted in the copy. The missing words are evidently "work near."

Intelligence retur<ned> ¹ the third day heard or thought they heard some Party of the Enemy & returned the 3^d. Morning, the Cap^t says his Men had the *Start* <and> would not stay out.

This Evening 3 Spies I sent to Crown Point returned. They <went> very near to it, Judged there were between 5 & 600 Men there & a <Camp of Ind>ians. They have fortified the high Ground w^{ch} over looks <the Fort, & were> very busy digging Trenches & raising Works. They <took a distant View of Tionderogo. In their return could perceive a very considerable Encamp^t. There heard some French Horns play, several Muskets fired & judged they discovered a Fort built or building. They say the way by Land, except 4 Miles on this side Tionderogo, is impracticable for Cannon. I propose to send Spies to take a more exact View.

We had this day a Man dis>erted from the <Rhode Island Reg^t. He speaks> French & is an Intelligent Fello<w; by all accts a great Rasc>al & I am informed had declared if <ever he deserted he would go> to the French. I sent a party to intercept <him but miss>ed him. I am persuaded he is gone over to <the Enemy & I fear wi>ll give them too particular an Acc^t of us.

I most sincerely Wish Your Excellency Success in the important Service you are engaged in & am

Sir

Y^r Excellencys

Most Obed^t. hum <Serv^t.>

<To GOV. SHIRLEY>

¹ Omitted in the copy.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.

<Camp at Lake George 22 Sep^r. 1755 P. M.

At a Council of War held by General Johnson at his Tent
Pres^t.

Major General Lyman and all the Field> officers of <the
several> Reg^{ts}. in Camp except <Col. Goodrich absent by
sickness &> Maj^r Nicholls <de>tain^d by his Wound

Cap^t. Eyre Q^r. Master Gen^l & M^r Glazier Adjutant Gen^l
Peter Wraxall Sec^{ry}.

The General laid before this Council of War the follo<wing>
Article.

That as some Reinforcements are already ar<rived &>
others daily expected — That as the Gov^r. of New York <is
come> up to Albany in order to forward this Service & by his
Lett<ers> to the General is exerting all his Authority to get a
suffic<ient> number of Waggon, and hopes he shall thereby
be speedily able to forward the Provisions & Stores belo<nging>
to this Army. The General desires this Council of War will
take into their Consideration, all the necessary Circumstances w^{ch}
relate to proceeding from hence towards Crown Point & give him
their Opinion on this important Subject.

It is the Unanimous Opinion of this Council that every further
Measure be taken by the General in order to prepare the Army
<to> proceed forward on the present Expedition as soon as
the desi<gned> reinforcements & the necessary Stores & Pro-
visions Cannon &^{ca}. arrive here.

In consequence of w^{ch} Opinion the General is adv<ised> to
order the 18 ll^s. at Albany to be brought up here & to apply to
the Gov^r. of New York for some more Cannon, Mus<ket>
Ball & Flints, and to order the Shot & Shell from the half Moon
to be brought up hither.

PETER WRAXALL Sec^{ry}.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR¹

A. L. S.

Albany 23 Sep. 1755.

D^R SIR

I begin to doubt if the Mohawks will join you in any considerable numbers. Yesterday 4 of the lower Castle came hither; Thomas is the Name of him is the head of the Family & they come to demand their prisoner, the wrong one had been kept, and these Indians went 7 miles after the Vessel but not overtaking her, Mr O DeLancey went on and got on board & brought one who best answered their description, but who is not the right neither, but they are pleased & intend to adopt him, in the room of their Uncle Jacob; this is a queer Custom, but I suppose it took its rise from the necessity they saw of keeping up their Numbers. The Governor gave each of them a Gun, 2 lb powder, 4 lb Lead & 2 Boxes of Paint. Thomas said he had an Uncle & a Cousin at home, & that he must give his Gun to one of them. The Gov. understood his meaning & gave him 2 more Guns cautioning him ag^t. telling. These 4 go immediately thro the Woods from their Castle to join you. They say a Council was held lately at their Castle at which I find it is a Custom for the old Women even to preside, the Women were against their going again, saying their Loss is already heavy, & that perhaps they would have no body left to take Care of their Wives and children, meaning that they might all be kill^d and therefore they should stay and fight at their Castle. These 4 said, that is Thomas told the others whatever their determination was, he and his Family were resolved to go again to their Brother Johnson — this is the Man whom the Governor by your means stop^t last year from going to Canada. They went away at 2 oClock extremely well pleased & took their *Uncle* as they now call their Prisoner along with them — to whom the Gov. gave a

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Omitted as illegible.

Blanket, Stock^s. & Shirt. We do not know what is the determination of the other Castles. A Message of Condolence is to be sent to each Nation, in which they will be acqu^d with the Gov^{rs} app^t. their Services acknowledged in the late Action, & the Reputation of their Ancestors as well as their own argued as an incitement to them to return to the Army — I think the two Castles of the Mohawks might have been sent for, the presence of a new Gov^r. might have added to the Weight of their Engagements to you. I mentioned this opinion tho not to the Gov^r: & was answered it would throw them into Confusion; It may be so, but I think the other Nations could not take Umbrage at it as they might have been told the Reason and any of the others that could attend in time might have done so. Perhaps there is a better Reason. I have not heard what it is and do not think myself knowing enough in those affairs to give my opinion. I have been very particular in this Matter, that you may take your

¹ accordingly. Our Citizens have subscribed £500 to be sent up in Refreshments to your army, on which head I suppose Mr. O DeLancey will write you. O That I could stop the swift Motion of time at this Juncture, or the Severity of the Season may not stop your Operations. I saw about 1000 Conn^t. Men drawn out before the Gov^s. door this Morning, they make a difficulty of marching yet

² they might eat up your Prov^s: I told some of their officers to do as the French did carry 10 or 15 days Prov^s. in their Sacks. Some Voluntiers came on horseback I hear from Boston. I think the people here are but indifferently armed, a matter which ought to be look^d to & their arms mended. A Company march^d to day to mend the Roads, which are excessive bad & which if not mended may drive your Army to great Straights. The Passage from Ticonder on Land I am told is unpassable, or rather that ther ar no Passage, and after the best Information from Mr. Cuyler, you^l have great difficulty in Landing. In short if you will have Victory, you must I think purchase it dear, as you have done this, tho of

¹ Omitted as illegible.

² "Leeft" in the copy. It should probably be "lookt."

no great Consequence as to reducing your numbers, for you¹ have enough not many less I apprehend than 8000. The Governor recommends the building of Ovens, to ¹ Transportation of Bread which receives damage in carrying. I was concerned to see you even reduced the Necessity of giving up your Sentiments as to the Fort where you are, A Strong and very large one, or Store Houses, should be built some where properly situated, that we may send up prov^s. in the winter which I apprehend we may have occasion to do whether you carry your Point or not But it is more especially necessary if you abandon your principal design — D. Shuckburgh, and Ayscough are here, the latter comin voluntarily to do any Service in his Way. We are all well drink your health & Success after Meals, and Sr. Charles wishes to see you. A Motion prevails among your People I hear that he intends for the Camp; I think not, & that his stay will not be much longer here. I am with my best wishes Dr Sr. your most

GW BANYAR

The Gov^r. extremely anxious about the building of Forts and I am in doubt whether he will not go himself if nothing less could build them this Inter Nos.

TO WILLIAM COCKCROFT

*Df.*²

Camp at Lake George Tuesday [23 Sep^r 1755]

8 oClock

SIR

I have just received an Account by a Man dispatched [] a Scouting Party who are out towards South Bay, that [] of their Scouts heard People's Voices & saw one Man who they took to be a French Man & discovered a number of Fresh [] in the road w^{ch} leads from South Bay to Fort Edward

¹ Omitted as illegible. ² By W^raxall.

I send you this advice as I received it, & think it proper you should be on your Guard & tomorrow morning early send 2 or 3 Parties of 3 Men ea[ch] to Scout towards South Bay, & Wood Creek. And if [you?] get any Material Intelligence send me an acco[unt] with all possible Dispatch. I am Sir

Your very hum

To COL. COCKCROFT.

INDORSED: Letter to Col. Cockcroft
23 Sep^r. 1755

TO WILLIAM COCKCROFT

Df.

[Lake George, Sept 23, 1755]

[¹]
[] [re]mainder of []
[] to releive You and the five Comp[anies] []
[] Province of New York and for him ² to []
[] the said Fort.

You are to hold Yourself in readiness with [] to March hither with the first Convoy of Waggon[s] after [] Arrival, with the necessary Baggage &c.

In the meantime send a party to bring up the Battae[us] [w^{ch}?] may be drifted from the Fort and take care to preserve them with their Paddles and setting Poles in the best order possible.

If Sir Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York should give You [] of his coming up hither and want a Guard You will

¹ Several lines burned off.

² Colonel Ruggles, who was to relieve Colonel Cockcroft. This was mentioned in the burned portion of the letter. See Johnson Calendar, p. 51.

take care to order him one proper and sufficient to conduct him to Fort [Edward]

I am

Sir

Your Verry Hum^l Serv[ant]

INDORSED: 23 Sep^r 1755

MILITARY ORDERS

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar by Johnson's orders of September 23d, drafted at Lake George, to commanding officers of provincial regiments in camp to supply New Hampshire troops with provisions. Destroyed by fire.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

<Camp at Lake George 23 Sep^r 1755.

SIR

I am honoured with your Excellency's Letter of the 21st by Express. As I have great reason to suspect the Enemy have parties to observe our Motions & to get a Prisoner if they can, particularly between this Camp & Fort Edward (w^{ch} is the name I have given to) the Fort laid out by Capt^t <Eyre at the Carry-
ing Place in hon>our to Prince Edward) I do not <think it prudent to lay all> those Matters before you & transmit you <those Papers w^{ch}> I should otherwise do, in answer to your <Letter & upon> your arrival at Albany.

If it is consistent with your Excell<ency>'s State of Health & the public Calls upon you, I think it would <at this important Juncture be of Great> & useful Consequence to the Service I am engaged in, if <your Excell>ency would honour me with a Visit at this Camp & <that the> Gentlemen of the Council accompany you. Should this <be> consistent with your other public <Engagements> & your Excellency should detirmine to do it, please to <acquaint> the Commanding officer at Fort Edward

¹ By Wrazall.

whom I shall <thereupon order to> meet you <with> a Guard & order <another> Guard from hence to Conduct you hither.

If I cannot expect the honour of seeing your <Excell^y> here where an English Governor never yet set his Foot, I <will> either write you at large upon the present State of affai<rs> & transmit you the necessary Papers relative to the Expedi<tion> under my Command & send them with proper Guard, w^{ch} if these Papers were ready I could not prudently do at present without too much weakening the <Camp> having several Parties out, or D<is>patch a Person to You with all the requisite Papers & qualified to give you the necessary Information — Were it prudent for me to wait on You my Wound will not permit my travelling so far. I should otherwise eagerly embrace the Opportun<ity> of paying my personal respects to you.

I am most respectfully Sir Your Excellency^s. Most Obed^t hum Se<rv^t>

We are but very ill provided with Musket Ball & Flints & should be glad y^r Excell^y would send us a Supply.

To SIR CHARLES HARDY Gov^r of New York &c

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

Albany 24 September: 8 P: M.

DEAR SIR

I wrote you yesterday and informed you of the Steps taking here respecting the Indians. To morrow Morning Mr. Ogilvie²

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Rev. John Ogilvie was born in New York City in 1722, and died there November 26, 1774. He was graduated at Yale, received into the ministry and sent as a missionary to the Mohawks. He was chaplain to the Royal Americans, with appointment dating from September 1, 1756; accompanied Sir William Johnson against Fort Niagara and General Amherst against Canada; and in 1764 was made assistant minister at Trinity Church, New York.

& Mr. Van Schaick,¹ Recorder of this City set out with a Message from the Governor² to be delivered to each Castle of the Mohawks the substance of which as I acquainted you is to cover their dead & press them to join you as soon as possible. the like Ceremony is to be performed at the Castles of the Oneides and Tuskaroras, & afterwards at the Schoharry and Auchquage Castles, but the formality of Condolence is to be avoided, as it is said it would take up much time. This Afternoon L^t. Butler arrived here from Schenectady, and says the Indians are very backward, that he has engaged the Promise of about 20 only, and that the five upper Nations have sent a Belt to the Mohawks signifying that they would not intermeddle, that the English & French had a design to kill them all, That the Mohawks might do as they pleased but if they join'd you, they would kick them from them and have no more to say to them. To morrow the two Castles of the Mohawks are to meet at the lower one, where this Message & black strouds Belts &c will be delivered; may it produce a change in their Sentiments. I suspect from the Complaints of the Baron, who says the Caghnewages were not only backward themselves but perswaded others to be so, that our Indians and they have some Understanding together — From his Letter this should appear a favourable Juncture to bring the Cachnewages over to us, tother Victory, and its odds but we gain them; A small Present was given to day to a Cachnewaga who came over about 18 months ago he appears hearty, says he^{ll} join you, that he has 5 Sons among that People, whom he will endeavour to bring back.—I doubt if all the Reinforcements will join you early enough to proceed, if not, those behind may stay at the present Camp & strengthen the building there. If they should all join you I think 'twould not be adviseable to take the whole for these Reasons. Many are poorly armed,

¹ Sybrant G. Van Schaick.

² See below Message to Indians, September 24, 1755.

others not so fit or able to proceed, and yet if you conquer or should be overpowered, such, tho of little use, will be counted in the numbers, and lessen the Merit or add to the disgrace. Too many will retard the Dispatch necessary, and a number is proper to be left for the Security of the rest, in case of any Misfortune besides it will be difficult enough to carry Provisions for this Reason I wish the Example of the French was followed who carried 15 days Provision, how much would this lessen Carriage where the Troops move by Land & Batoes maybe scows.¹

Youve heard perhaps of poor Cap^t. Kings death; the doctor has mentioned to Mr. Barons² your former Inclination for a Company. In Conversation with the latter on this Subject I told him, I did not understand your Commission as Col. of the 6 Nat^s. was yet made out, that I believed you might be glad of both, but was perswaded could not accept of the Company in lieu of 'tother, which would not only give much higher Rank but better Pay. He seemed to think both, were incompatible. Sr. Charles will I think do you any Service he can, but you must desire his Friendship and let him know wherein he can serve you. I think you should not delay obtaining your Commⁿ. as Colonel which by the Board of Trade, was recommended in a Report to the King in Council. I read so much of the Copy of it, shown me by Mr. Pownall, as I think I formerly acquainted you on our Way to Alexandria and I wonder the Commission has not been issued. Perhaps the Notion prevails that the Indians must be Regimented in this Case, and the Expence prevents their doing any thing in it. I see no impropriety in your having the direction of Indⁿ. affairs under the Title and Rank of Col. without their being regimented. A fairer Occasion you cant have then the present Circumstances of affairs give you & I am sure the application you make yourself will be well seconded; I wish you may have

¹ The original was probably "scarce."

² Benjamin Barons, secretary to Sir Charles Hardy.

an Opportunity of making a personal Friendship with S^r. Charles before he leaves this Place for N York. If you dont think there's danger of Letters being intercepted, I shall write again perhaps, but it's time to hope a few Lines from you, especially as I now look on myself as your Neighbour almost. My Compliments to Cap^{ts}. Wraxall & Eyre. Is M^r. Wraxall the only Aid de Camp you have. Nothing of Dunbar nor any certain accounts from the Westward, my apprehensions of their doing continue. A Meeting of Comm^{rs}: is proposed at N Y in Nov. next, it will hardly take Place so soon if you can I suppose you'll be present:

25 Sep^r. 9 P: M.

I shall venture this, as I imagine the Enemy have not yet received¹ their Surprize; it is to be sent from Fort Edward by Express and perhaps will go with some Eschort or Party. Have you left Cannon enough or do you apprehend there's Necessity for 'em at Fort Edward. I rec'd your Ere; whether I shall have the pleasure of seeing you I think will depend on your answer to S^r. Charles's Letter w^{ch}. I've not seen. They have just rec'd advice in London of the taking the 2 French Ships of War, but the French did not know it by the latest accounts. I am D^r. Sir your obed^t. hble serv^t.

GW BANYAR

we've just heard of your Orders of the 21 to the Comm^s. and officers of the Troops here.

¹ "Recovered" probably.

RETURN OF EFFECTIVES

*Df.*¹

Return of Men fit for Duty Camp Lake George 23 & 24
Sep^r 1755.

Massachusetts	Col. Gilberts Reg ^t . S. C. D & P.	207
d ^o .	Col. Bagly	245
d ^o .	L ^t . Col. Whitcomb ^s Detach ^t .	150
		602
New Hampshire		244
Rhode Island & Draughts in Artillery		186
Connecticut	Gen ^l . Lymans Reg ^t	326
d ^o .	Col. Goodrich ^s . w th 2 Additional Comp ^s .	370
6 Companys of Connecticut Reinforce ^{ts}		410
50 on Scout 24 Sep ^r .		2138
3 Comp ^s . Reinf ^s Col. Chauncey		162
Lieu ^t Col. Worsters C ^o .		57
5 Comp ^s . New York		329
		2686

*List of Invalids*²

Lake George y^e 21st Sep^r. 1755

David Cunningham	Andrew Lovjoy
John Miller	Samuel Meecham
Ezekieh Hale	Benj ^a Warriener
Samuel Whitman	Aaron Warriener
Robert Crage	John Mun
Robert Sanderson	

The above Nam^d. Invalid^d. Have Liberty to Return to New
england Given them, Sence the 8th enstat^r pr Tho^s. Gilbert

¹ By Wraxall.

² On the back of the above.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

The preceding return is followed in the Johnson Calendar by a letter of September 24th, now burned, from Johnson to the lords of trade on the recent victory, return of the Indians to their home, trade between Albany and Canada, and the means to separate the Caghnawagas from the French (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:698–700; Q, 2:407–8; *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1009–10). This is followed by Captain Robert Rogers's report of scouting at Crown Point, submitted to Colonel Joseph Blanchard, and by him to Johnson, September 24th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:259–60; Q, 4:169). Original destroyed by fire.

FROM STEPHEN HOPKINS

*A. L. S.*¹*Providence September 24, 1755.*

SIR

Your Letter of the 9th. Instant with many Letters from other Officers in the Camp, have given us an Account of your Engagement, with the Enemy the Day before. Many here were in Pain for you fearing you would be attacked, before you were reinforced; and altho this Action happened according to our Fears, yet the Successfull Event exceeded our Hopes.

Those who from their past Experience might be led to think they had Nothing more to do than to attack furiously, and yell hideously to make them victorious, have been modestly shewn their Error, they have been taught to turn their Backs, and leave their Brethren and Commanders behind them; They who Stole a Victory from Braddock, and cheated that Hero out of his Life by Sculking, have been openly arrested by English Warrants, and sent to Settle their Accounts with him, where Nothing will be gained by Ambuscades.

We all rejoice, yea we rejoice much at your Success, yet are not half so much pleased with that as with your Conduct and Bravery. We esteem it a sure Earnest of further Successes that you are able to obtain certain Intelligences and not be surprised or deceived. We are not more encouraged by your Ardor to engage, than by your Judgment to retreat, as on one Hand Suc-

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

cess can add Nothing to your Courage, so on the other we hope it will take Nothing from your Caution. We congratulate you on the Opportunity of displaying your Humanity and Beneficence, to one who for his great Ability in the Art of War, hath been recommended by the renowned Count Saxe, and Commisioned by the Grand Monarch.

And altho like all other Men we had much rather rejoice than mourn, yet are we not so insensible to Merit, as to deny our Tears to the Sacred Memory of Williams, Titcomb, and all those other Sons of Liberty, who bravely Sacrificed their Lives in their Countrys Cause; nor are we less afflicted for the Loss of that great American King, our faithfull Friend and Ally, who encouraging his Brethren and fighting in our Cause, was struck by that renowned Bullet, commissioned to destroy more Good Sense, than any before it had ever done.

This small Colony have raised 350 men to reinforce you, four Companies of which are already gone, and the other three are now ready to move forward, and every Thing is and will be provided, which we can think or be informed is necessary for them.

Those Large Reinforcements from the Colonies of the Massachusetts and Connecticutt, added to the Army you already have, and those from New Hampshire and this Colony, we hope will enable you to overmatch the Enemy in Numbers and Succeed in the designed Enterprize. However should the French pushing to the utmost make their Force to defend equal to yours to attack, Let it be known in New England as soon as possible for Men enough are here yet left, ready and willing if the Cause so require, Speedily and very greatly to encrease your Numbers.

Your Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant

STEP HOPKINS.

The honble MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

MESSAGE TO INDIANS¹

*At a Council held at the City of
Albany on Wednesday the 24th day
of September 1755.*

Present

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy Knight &^{ca}.

James De Lancey	} Esq ^{rs} .
Daniel Horsmanden	
John Rutherford	

The following Message being read and approved of, was sent by the Recorder of this city Mr. Van Schaick and the Reverend Mr. Ogilvie Missionary to the Indians.

To the Mohawk Oneide and
Tuskarora Nations of Indians, as
also to the Indians of the Schohary
and Auchquage.

Message to the
Ind^s. to cover their
dead and invite the
Warriors to return
& join the army.

Brethren. The Great King Your Father having been pleased to appoint me Governor of this Province, I thought it necessary to acquaint you therewith as early as I could, and concluded to send you a Message, as the publick affairs which require my presence at New York will not permit my calling you together before I leave this City.

A String of Wampum.

Brethren.

Since my Arrival, I have seen the Records of the late proceedings between you and General Johnson, and cannot but express the Satisfaction I feel in finding both you and us so firmly united in that covenant chain, which had its beginning beyond the

¹ Council Minutes, 25:83-84.

Memory of Man, and which hath been so carefully preserved hitherto from the least stain or rust. Nothing can convince me more of your intention to continue this Friendship inviolable, than your joining with us in the proper Measures to repel the French from their encroachments. Whether we or you receive any Injury, I look on the Authors equally our Enemies, and that the Covenant between us Obliges both to make it a Common Cause. From this principle it is, that I am as sensible of the Loss of your great Men in the late Action, as you yourselves can be, and give you these Strouds &c to cover your Dead, to wash the Tears from your Eyes, and drive away Sorrow from your Hearts.

As we have now paid the Regard due to our deceased Warriors for the present, and mean to condole you in due form when time will admit of it; I earnestly invite you to return to the Assistance of your Brethren, the English, who now only wait that they may proceed with you to finish the good Work already so successfully began.

I have the great King's Command to assure you of his protection, and under that you will remain secure against the Threats or designs of all your Enemies. The loss of some of our great Warriors ought not to discourage, but rather animate us to go on to revenge their deaths on our Enemies; with this View We have increased our Enemies¹ Army to double the Number it was in the late Battle. Your Forefathers were justly distinguished for their great Bravery and gallant Actions. It was this made them the Terror and Scourge of their Enemies, and no one dared to offend them. You have shewn yourselves by your undaunted behaviour in the Battle to be the Descendents of such Noble Ancestors. Come on then with us, and by facing the Enemy again, continue to deserve that Reputation, for which neither the Memory of your Forefathers, or yours, will ever be forgotten. I call upon you in the name of the Great King your Father to follow us; your own Interest and the Strictest Ties of Friendship Oblige you to it. If you shou'd stay at home while your Brethren the English are

¹ "Enemies" in the manuscript.

proceeding under General Johnson against the common enemy, The French and their Indians will Ascribe it to Fear and dread of them; an Imputation which I am persuaded you never yet have or ever will deserve.

TO TIMOTHY RUGGLES

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 24 Sep^r 1755

Instructions for Colonel Tim^o. Ruggles

1.

You are to take the returned Waggon^s under your Convoy & march with the remainder of your Regiment from this Camp to Fort Edward to relieve Col. Cockcroft who I have ordered to march hither with the first Waggon^s after your Arrival with the 5 Comp^s of his Reg^t raised in the Province of New York You will take care to march with proper advanced & flank Guards & so as to cover the Waggon^s from any Parties of the Enemy.

2.

On your arrival at Fort Edward, you are to take on you the Command of the same & take care that what remains to compleat it be finished as speedily as can possibly be done & you are from time to time to advise me of your proceedings & what assistance you may want herein.

3.

You are to keep up a due Subordination & Discipline Amongst the officers & soldiers under your Command & take care to be always guarded against a surprize & ready to receive an attack from the Enemy. besides your Out Sentries from break of day till Night you are to send small Scouts of 3 or 4 towards Wood Creek & round about you for 2 or 3 miles & upon the Intelligence

¹Original destroyed by fire.

of the March of any Body of the Enemy to give me immediate Notice by 2 or more brisk Men to set out a Quarter of an hour at most one after the other & also to Albany.

4.

You are to take care and Secure the Battoes from Damage or drifting & not suffer any one to abuse them, to send Parties down the river as far as the next Carrying Place to bring up those if any w^{ch}. may be drove down there.

5.

In case the Gov^r. of New York should write to you for a Guard to meet him you are to send him a Cap^ts Guard or such a Number as he may desire consistent with the safety of your Command.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹

Camp Oswego Sep^r. 24th: 1755

SIR

Yesterday afternoon I received your Letter dated 9th. Instant, being a Copy of that to the several Governors of the Colonies concern'd in the Expedition under your Command, and the same with what Mr. Stevenson transcrib'd from your Letter to Governor Phipps, and sent me seven days ago, as you will perceive by mine to you of the 19th. Instant.

In your last I receiv'd a Copy of the Orders and Instructions for the regular Troops sent to Cadaraqui, which are a Confirmation of the Intelligence, I sent you in my last, viz^t. that 500 of the Regular Troops, which came from France with Mr. Dieskau, are encamped at the Fort there; It appears also by those Instructions, that there were at least 166 Cannadeans sent with them

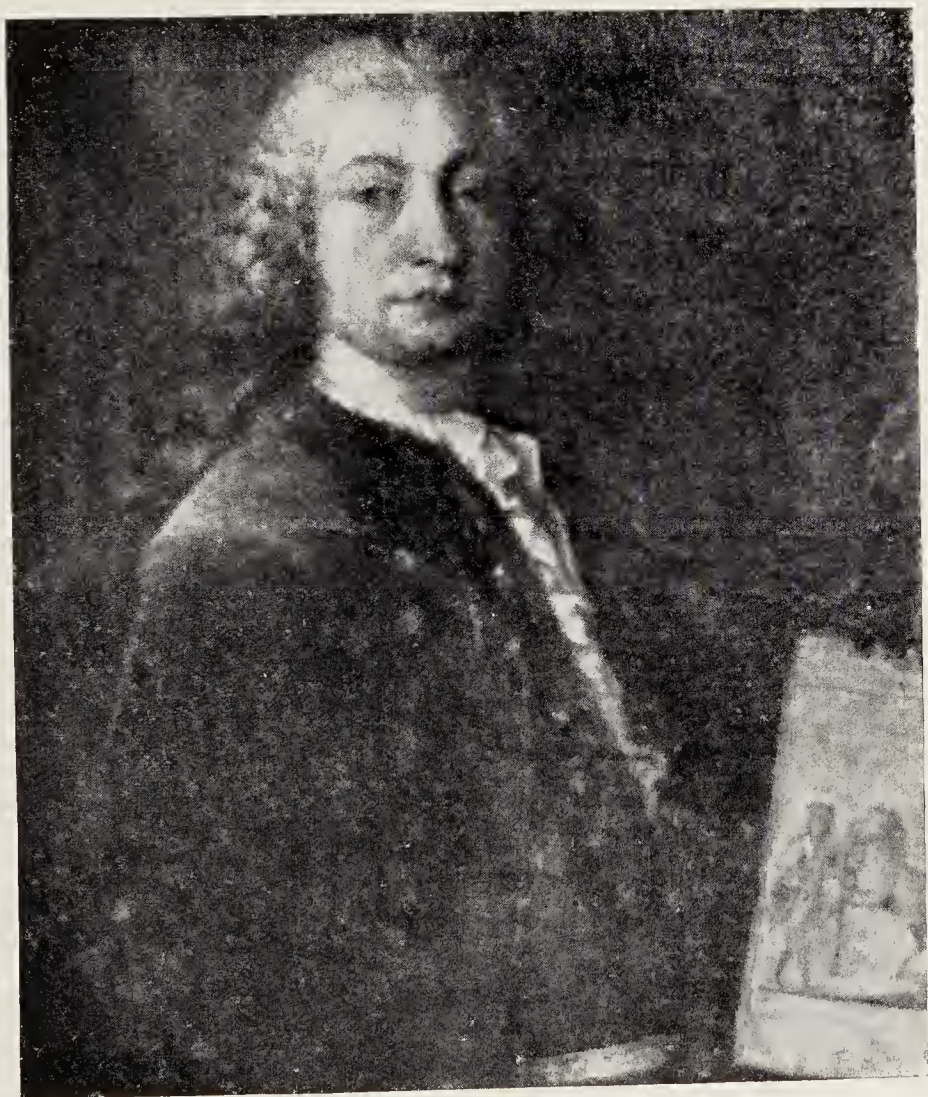
¹ Original destroyed by fire. There is an extract in Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 46, London, England. The letter is printed in *Correspondence of William Shirley*, ed. C. H. Lincoln, 2:280-83.

on the 1st: & 2^d. of Aug^t. last; & that a Number of Indians are there likewise.

By the Express, which delivered me your Letter, I received one dated 10th: Instant from Cap^t. Ayre your Engineer, informing me of the Strength of the Fort built at the Carrying Place; and that with a Garrison of 3 or 400 Men, would be able to resist an attack of 1500, if no Cannon were brought against it; and that in his Opinion it is very necessary that a strong and Regular Work sho^d: be erected at Lake George, to keep Possession of that Country so far; that if the French can seize and take the before mentioned Work at the Carrying Place, he fears it would be attended with bad Consequences, as it would cutt off your Retreat and Communication with Albany, and totally stop your Reinforcements & Provisions from joining you, if another Road cannot be found; which he believes is not easy to be met with; that he thinks what induc'd the French or may induce 'em hereafter to attack you at Lake George, is fearing that you would not attempt to go any further, so were resolved to cutt you off, before you returned, & seems to infer from thence that the Enemy must be so formidable, as to make it unadvisable for you to proceed further; and concludes with extolling the Gallantry & Resolution of the French Troops in their late attack of you.¹

I agree, Sir, in Sentiments with your Engineer concerning the bad Consequences of the Enemy's taking the Fort at the Carrying Place, and am much concerned at the Weakness of its Works; especially as both yourself and he are apprehensive of another attack at Lake George with Cannon; If I was in your situation, my chief apprehensions would be that the French would make an attempt upon that Fort with Cannon, which they might Transport thither as easily as to Lake George; and I think you judg'd extremely right in sending a Detachment of 1000 Men to his

¹ Transcript in Public Record Office has these additional words: "and the Opinion he hath conciev'd of Mr. Dieskau from his Conduct in it as an excellent Officer."



SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON (?)
(About 1756. By T. Adams ?)

Support upon the first alarm of the Enemy's being upon their March towards it: and for my own part,¹ I must own, I should have tho't: it a better piece of Conduct, in Mr. Dieskau, if, after defeating the Party under Col Williams's Command he had attack'd the Fort at the Carrying Place, instead of your Camp; which, according to your Engineer's account of it, might have been more easily won with the Force he had with him, than your Camp been storm'd.

I can by no means adopt your Engineers Opinion of the urgent necessity of immediately erecting a strong regular Fort at Lake George for maintaining Possession of the Country so far: In my Opinion the most material Place for erecting the strongest Works is at the other end of the Carrying Place (at or near where the Fort lately built stands) which is about 17 Miles distant from it: It seems to me that a Regular strong Fort there would be a much more essential one for covering the Country against the attacks of the French from the River Champlain, thro the three several Routes, that lead from thence to it, than one at Lake George, which would leave it uncovered in two of those Routes: Besides, how could a Fort at Lake George be supported, when it's Communication with Albany was cutt off, which, as your Engineer rightly observes, would most probably be the Case, if the French should take our Fort at the Carrying Place.

I would therefore recommend it to you in the strongest manner, as an Object, which deserves your attention, to have the Fort at the Carrying Place strengthened as much as the Circumstances of your Army will admit, consistent with your proceeding directly to Tinonderogue.

As to the formidable Strength of the Enemy, you will have to encounter in your March thither, I have told you my Sentiments at large in my last Letter; and with regard to the Gallant Behaviour of their Troops in the late actions; I must own, I differ

¹ Transcript in Public Record Office has these words: "tho I doubt not of Mr. Dieskau's being an excellent Officer, I must own I should have thought it a better piece of Conduct in him."

widely in Opinion from your Engineer; Their Retreat was a very bad one without Conduct or Resolution; they could not otherwise have suffered so great a Slaughter, as you say they did, in the short Pursuit made of them by your Troops & Indians, which jump'd over the Barricads of your Camp after them.

The more I think of your situation, the more adviseable I think it will be for you to proceed to Tinonderogue; as the Honour of his Majestys Arms and the Interest of the Colonies seem to require it: The Consequences, I fear will be bad, if you do not; and I cant but hope that you will see these matters in the same light, which I view them in.

The weak Condition, which I found this place in, and our want of dry Provisions have hitherto inevitably hinder'd me from proceeding in the Expedition under my Command, but both these Obstacles will, I hope, be so far surmounted in three days, as to permit me to do it:

I wish you a speedy Recovery of your Wound, and much Success, and am, Sir,

Your most Humble Servant.

W SHIRLEY.

P: S: Be pleased to Communicate this to Cap^t. Ayre; I have not time to write to him before I Sail

FROM SIR CHARLES HARDY

L. S.¹

Albany Sep^r. the 25th 1755.

SIR

I received yours by the return of my Express by which I was in hopes I should have had some Account of the State of your Army, with a return of Provision & Stores, and your answer to some other points contained in my Letter to you by that Express; As I would not have you risque any Papers falling into the Enemy's hands, if you judge sending them to me may endanger

¹Original destroyed by fire.

them; I must desire you would send to me a Person you can confide in, properly instructed from you, that can give me every information you may be desirous of communicating to me, together with a Plan of Fort Edward and the one I am told you are building upon the Lake, both which I hope, as I observed to you in my last, will be so constructed for the receiving proper Garrisons for their Security this Winter, together with proper Magazines for Provisions & Stores.

As I apprehend the Indians joining You at this Juncture may be of great Service for Scouting Parties &c. I have this day sent Mr. Ogilvie their Minister, and the Recorder of this city to the Mohawks Castles, with a Message and some Black Strouds to Cover their Dead, and have used all the arguments in my power to prevail on them to repair immediately to Your Camp, and that I will condole them on their Loss, as soon as time will admit of it.

While I am writing this Col. Dyer of the Connecticut Forces has shewn me your Order to him to continue here, with the remainder of the Forces under his Care, till further directions. I should have been glad to have known your intentions on this head sooner, as it was but this morning, I recommended it in Council to that Gentleman, as well as the other Commanders of Provincial Forces in this City, that are intended for your reinforcement, to leave this Place & join you immediately.

I observe you are desirous of my seeing your Camp with the Gentlemen of the Council. I should be glad you would by the return of this Express let me know in what instance you think my immediate presence might be of Service, for I shall be at all times glad to have it in my power the Public Service whether in Camp or City.

By the first Waggon I will send you some Musket Ball & Flints for the New York Forces for whom I presume you want them; if for others You will take care they are accounted for.

I shall recommend it to the Commissaries, and see they dispatch the Provisions to you, for which service there are a great number of Waggons employed.

I hope your Wound will mend daily, but cannot this time expect to have the pleasure of seeing you here, Whenever it is you may be assured it will give pleasure to

Sir

Your most Obed^t. humble Serv^t.

CHAS: HARDY

P. S. I hope the Baron Deskieu's Wounds are better than when he came down here.

To:

GENERAL JOHNSON.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹

Camp at Oswego Sept^r. 25th 1755.

SIR

As it is possible that your Wound may render you unable to proceed in Person to Tenonderoge, in such Case I would recommend it to you to order Major General Lyman, who I apprehend hath escap'd unhurt, or Colonel Ruggles, in Case General Lyman should be unable to go in person, to march the Forces under your Command to that Pass, and take possession of it, and secure it against the Enemy, leaving with you such a Number of Troops as you shall judge sufficient for strengthening the Works at the Carrying place, and erecting such at Lake George, as you shall think absolutely necessary.

If nothing further could be done this Campaigne than gaining Tenonderoge, yet that would be carrying a great² for the protection of the Country behind, this year, and facilitation of the Reduction of Fort St. Frederic the next Spring.

You will give me leave to press this Matter again upon you, as what nearly concerns his Majesty's Service, and the Interests

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Word omitted in the copy. "Point" satisfies the sense.

of the Colonies; and must greatly redound to your own Honour and that of the Army under your Command; and I should be glad, you would consult your Field Officers upon it.

I hope your Health will permit you to go upon this Service in Person, and earnestly wish, your Attempt may crown'd with all the Success, you can desire; which I cant but think it will if you proceed. I am,

Sir,

Your most Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 26 Sep^r. 1755

SIR

I am favoured with your Excellencys two Letters of the 22 & 24 Inst.

I forgot to mention in my last that the Council of War had advised that the 18 pds. at Albany should be brought up here & that I should apply to Your Excellency for more small Cannon.

I have talked with Gen^l. Lyman & the Officers about Ovens. They think it would occasion waste & go to slow to be useful.

Your Excellency hath shown your Humanity & Zeal for the Service in directing Hospitals to be provided for the Wounded & Sick. You have all our grateful Acknowledgments for it.

As I flatter myself with the honour of seeing you here, I refer particulars to that Meeting, if I am disappointed in that, to the other Expedients proposed in my last.

I am most respectfully,

Sir your Excellencys

Most Obed^t. hum Serv^t.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

Gov^r of New York &c.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

TO TIMOTHY RUGGLES

A letter of September 26, 1755, from Johnson to Colonel Timothy Ruggles, at Fort Edward, which called for returns of boats and troops, apprised of tracks of enemy near Wood Creek and South Bay and cautioned against surprise, following the above in the Johnson Calendar, p. 52, was destroyed by fire.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

*Contemporary Copy*¹

September 26, 1755

Province of the Massachusetts Bay.

The Committee appointed to take under Consideration the two letters last received from General Johnson, having attended the Service report as their humble Opinion

That his Honour the Lieutenant Governour be desired to acquaint the General with the great Satisfaction which this Court takes in the Conduct and brave Spirit shown by the Officers and Soldiers in the late Engagement with the French and Indian Enemy and the Welcome reception which the News of this seasonable and important Success has met with throughout the Province and the dependence which is placed, under God upon the Continuance of the Same spirit in order to the effectual obtaining the proposed ends of the Expedition. That the General be desired to assure the Forces in the Pay of this Province that constant care shall be taken by the Government and all necessary Provision be made for their Comfortable support during the continuance of Service

That his Honour the Lieutenant Governour be further desired to inform the General that the Minutes of Council referred to in his first Letter did not accompany it and that the Several Papers mentioned in his last letter to have been sent to New York have not been received here, and although the Province and City of New York are nearest to the Place of Action which the Court suppose is the Reason why they were first sent thither, yet as this

¹ Destroyed by fire.

Government is principally concerned in the Expedition it will be most agreeable that all Papers and Advices of importance should be forwarded hither direct and that in every respect we should be considered as Principals and particularly that the French General and other Prisoners of Note may be sent to Boston

All which is humbly Submitted & ¹ Order of the Committee
James Minot

September 26. 1755

In Council September 26. 1755 Read and Ordered that this Report be Accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

J Willard Sec^{ry}.

In the House of Representatives Sept^r. 26. 1755
Read and Concur'd

T Hubbard Sp^{kr}.

Copy Examined

⌘ THO^s. CLARKE Dpt^y. Sec^{ry}.

A NOTIFICATION

A notification, dated September 27th, by Oliver DeLancey and Cornelis Cuyler at Albany, relating to stores forwarded, was destroyed by fire. It followed the above paper in the Calendar, of which see p. 53.

FROM SPENCER PHIPS

Df. S.²

Boston Sept^r. 26. 1755

S^a.

I have received your Letter of the 17th. Instant, And as that Part of it which relates to the Filling up the Offices which are become Vacant by the Death of Coll. Tidcomb Coll. Williams &c requires a more immediate Answer I shall confine my self to

¹ & by mistake for ⌘.

² In Massachusetts Archives.

that Subject at present referring other Matters to the next Opportunity which I suppose will soon happen

I am sensible it must have been difficult for you to determine in what manner to regulate the succession of Officers. There are inconveniencies both ways. It is not very agreeable to have Officers of inferior rank advanced over the heads of others in the same army who a few days before were their superiors in rank but in those forces the inconvenience is not so great as it would be in his Majestys regular troops for there the Officers would rank according to such promotion in future services whereas here upon the expiration of this particular service and the raising new Troops any reform or alteration may be made that may be thought proper; but there is a peculiar circumstance attending these Regiments which has great weight with me. Each Regiment consists mainly of people in one vicinity whose Officers were appointed from among themselves to encourage the enlistment & render the service more agreeable to the private soldiers.

I therefore think it will be liable to the least exception if in the present case you deliver Commissions for Colonels to the two Lt Colonels of Titcombs & Williams' Regiments & advance the other Officers in each Regiment according to their seniority. As this was a pretty nice point I thought it best to take the opinion of his Majestys Council & they fully concur with me.

The greatest part of our New Recruits of 2000 Men are already on their March And the rest, I hope, will follow in two or three days. I have commissioned Coll. Ichabod Plaisted, Coll. Richard Gridley, Coll. Josiah Brown & Coll. Joseph Thatcher to command the four Regim^{ts}. now raising; The said Collonels have rec^d. my Instructions to march their Regiments to the Camp & their to take your Orders.

I am Sir.

Your very humble Serv^t

S PHIPS

MAJ^R GENERAL JOHNSON

Since the writing the foregoing Letter a Committee of the Council & House of Representatives appointed to consider your two last Letters have made report which has been accepted & which I herewith transmit you Being informed that the Govern^{mt}. of Connecticut have furnished blank Commissions to fill up such Vacancys as may happen I have likewise thot fit to send a number & deliver Major Hoare Twenty under a blank Cover directed to you —

INDORSED: L^t. Govern^s. Letter to
General Johnson.

FROM SETH POMEROY

*A. L. S.*¹

Lake George Sepr 26th 1755

Last night I Being apponted to go the Grand Rounds — not being able to go my Self; Sent 2 of my officers Found the Guards & Centrys at 4 Clock In y^e morning In there Several Posts well

SETH POMEROY

GENERAL JONSON Esq^r

FROM HUGH WALLACE

L. S.

New York 26th Sepr. 1755

DEAR SIR

I had the Honour to write you the 17th Inst. with Mr. Bev: Robinson, to send you an ac^t of some Refreshments which were sent up to you for the Forces under your Command, The Spirit of Gratitude to you & your Brave Troops still continues, & y^e. People of Queens County, Long Island have raised & sent here

¹ On back of Johnson to Eyre, September 29, 1755.

for your Army 1000 Sheep, which Mr. Robinson & I. (who are Agents Volunteers for y^r. Service) are sending up as fast as possible & hope they will come safe & be acceptable, there are some Gunners going up to you, by Cap^m. Saul Bayard you will receive this, & I have sent by him a Cannister of Tea & some Liquerish, which was forgot, to be sent with the other things.

I wish we knew what was the Most agreeable thing to send up to you as more Money is raising daily, & y^e Philad'a People are raising something to be sent as Present to you.

May God Prosper you, be carefull of y^r self, the loss of you is not to be repaired at present to the Provinces so for their Sakes & ye rest of y^r. Friends, if you have no regard for yourself, be not too prodigal of y^r Valour, which gives pleasure & Joy to every Body.

My best respects to Cap. Eyers lett him know Colo Dunbar is on his March from Philad'a here, to go to Albany with his Forces, Adieu Dr Sir & believe me with great Esteem

Y^r. most obed & verry hum Serv^t.

HUGH WALLACE

FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

A letter of September 26, 1755, by William Williams, at "Oneyda's Carrying Place," following this in the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed by fire. It conveyed to Johnson congratulations for victory, regrets for the death of Colonels Titcomb and Williams and a request for a commission for the writer's son in Williams's regiment.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.¹

Camp at Lake George
Saturday 27. Sep^r. 1755 p. M.

At a Council of War held at General Johnson's Tent
Prest

General Johnson
Major Gen^l. Lyman

All the Field officers of the several Reg^{ts} in this Camp
except Maj^r. Nicholls

Cap^t. Eyre chief Engineer &c

Cap^t. Glazier adjutant Gen^l.

Peter Wraxall Secr^y. &c

1 The General acquainted this Council of War that Col. Blanchard of the New Hampshire Reg^t has several times complained to him, of the Difficulties he met with in obtaining Provisions for his said Reg^t agreeable to the Resolutions of the Council of War of the 22 & 23 Aug^t and as the General has Issued his Orders in Consequence of the said Resolution of the Council of War, he desires this Complaint may be taken into Consideration & the proper Measures, to prevent it for the Future advised being apprehensive that very ill Consequences will other wise arise to this Service.

2 That pursuant to the advice of the Council of War of the 21 Inst he had sent Orders to the Commanding officers of the Reinforcements from Massachusetts Bay & Connecticut to remain with the Troops under their Command at Albany till further Orders except necessary Convoys for escorting the Waggons w^{ch} might be dispatched from Albany as this was done in consideration of the then Scarcity of Provisions in Camp & the Uncertainty at that time of obtaining a suff^t Number of Waggons to bring provisions to supply the Troops here together with the

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

said Reinforcements — but since the arrival of the Gov^r. of New York at Albany the supply of Waggons has greatly increased, and that the Gov^r advises the General many more Waggons are engaged, he proposes to this Council of War whither he shall order the reinforcements now at Albany & the rest as fast as they arrive to march up hither with all convenient Speed.

3. The General acquainted this Council of War that One Henry Cooke of Major General Lymans Reg^t. asserted to Cap^t. Wraxall that the Expedition to Crown Point was not to go forward this year, for that General Johnson pulled General Lyman back who was for proceeding forward, and that he had heard this from above 100 Persons in this Camp upon w^{ch} Cap^t. Wraxall as Aid de Camp to General Johnson thought it prudent to order the fellow into Confinement, where he now is.

The General then told this Council that he apprehended the circulation of such Groundless False & Malicious Reports would have a tendency to over throw this Expedition & to injure his Character & he must therefore desire this Council of War to the utmost of their power to repress the Growth of such Scandalous Untruths, and as they have for the Major part been Eye Witnesses to the whole of his Conduct to this Day relative to his Command of the Army, that they would declare their Opinion of his Conduct relative to the above Charge & inform him whether he has neglected any or if there are any further Measures in his power to pursue or Order w^{ch} may contribute to Expedite the present Expedition against Crown Point.

4. The General further acquainted this Council that he is informed most of the officers & Men of the 5 Companys of the New York Reg^t who arrived in Camp yesterday had heard as a Common Report that Cap^t. Eyre chief Engineer, Director of the Artillery & Quarter Master General to this Army was confined & put into Irons for ordering the Cannon to be fired over the Enemies heads in the late Engagement on the 8 Inst & for showing the French Generals Aid de Camp the most easy Plans for the Enemy to attack this Camp & for several other Treacherous

Practices. The General told this Council of War that such False & Villainous Reports of a Gentleman whose Fidelity he has the utmost reason to be assured of & with whose Services in his several Stations in this Army he is perfectly satisfied gave him very great uneasiness & hoped The Gentlemen of this Council of War will discountenance all such vile Reports & give that Testimony to Cap^t. Eyre's Character w^{ch} it Merits.

Upon the first Article, this Council of War are of Opinion that the New Hampshire Reg^t. is to be provided by the commissaries of the several other Gov^{ts}. in this Camp in the follow'g Proportions Massachusetts Bay 4/9 Connecticut 2/9 New York 2/9 Rhode Island 1/9.

Upon the 2^d. Article. The Council were of Opinion the Consideration of this Article should be posponed a few days. when Col. Bagly delivered in a paper to the General containing as follows.

By yr. Honours leave

1. "I would propose to this Council whether it would not be adviseable to take under Consideration what Forces we Apprehend would be sufficient to proceed forwards towards Crown Point and what Quantity of Provisions would be adviseable to take with us when we leave this Encamp^t. and by what time we may reasonable suppose that Quantity of Provisions &c. can be procured here considering the Season of the Year.

2. "Whether it is Judged adviseable to proceed any further Towards Crown Point at *that* Season of the Year.

3. "Whether it would not be adviseable to send all the Sick & wounded that is not likely to do Duty for some time home and also that the General send & Stop the Reinforcements that are not yet arrived here, that the Burthen of the Gov^{ts}. may be in some Measure eased, and all the Forces that are here that can be employed, be immediately set to work in building a place of Strength Magazines & Store houses in order to secure the Artillery Stores & Provisions & hold the Ground we have under God Obtained."

W^{ch} was read to the Council of War, who gave their Opinion that the consideration of them be deferred to another Opportunity or whenever the General thinks proper to summon a Council of War upon them.

Upon the third Article this Council of War are Unanimously of Opinion that the Words spoken by Hen^y. Cooke to Cap^t. Wraxall were false, and Groundless, & are convinced that General Johnson has constantly taken every Step in his Power to promote the Good & to bring into Effect the present Expedition & thus cannot propose any better Measures than those now on foot to expedite the said Expedition

Upon the Fourth Article this Council of War are of Opinion that the Reports therein mentioned in relation to Cap^t. Eyre are intirely False Malicious Scandalous & Groundless, & that they will write to their several Governments to discountenance any such reports & that his Behaviour in said Engagem^t was Unexceptionable.

PETER WRAXALL

Sec^{ry}:

FROM JONATHAN BAGLEY AND FROM JOHNSON

The preceding was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 53, by a letter of the 27th from Colonel Jonathan Bagley on further progress, sick and wounded, reinforcements and fortification; one of the 28th to Governor Hardy on action of council of war as to reinforcements, mentioning absence of Indians, number of effective men, Captain Eyre's plan of forts and Bagley's description of picketed fort and instructions without date to Colonel Thomas Gilbert regarding supplies, wagons and deserters. These were destroyed by fire.

MINUTE OF ORDERS TO SURGEONS

A. D. S.¹

Camp at Lake George

28 Sep^r. 1755

Head Quarters

The General having directed the several Surgeons in this Army to Attend & they accord'gly came.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

The Gen^l. desired they would with all possible dispatch return to him the Number of Sick & Wounded now in Camp under their Care respectively

That they would at the same time give in writing their several or joint Opinion of the Disorders most prevalent & to what principal Causes in their Judgment they are owing. also what Prospect there is of the Sick & Wounded speedily recovering If any, what things are wanting to comfort 'em & forward their Recovery

All w^{ch} they are to sign either seperately or jointly as they may agree among themselves.

PETER WRAXALL
A. D. Camp

FROM ROBERT ROGERS

The preceding minute was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 53, by Captain Robert Rogers's journal of a scout to Ticonderoga, submitted to Colonel Joseph Blanchard, and by him to Johnson, September 29th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:260-61; Q, 4:170.) Destroyed by fire.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹

Camp at Oswego Sept^r. 28th. 1755.

SIR;

I send the Inclos'd Extract of Gov^r. Lawrence's Letter to the late Major General Braddock for your further Satisfaction, that it is not in the least probable notwithstanding the Baron Dieskau's papers, the Reports of Prisoners, and boasting Messages from the French Governor, that there should be at Crown point & Tenonderoge above seven hundred of the Troops, w^{ch}. came from France this Summer to Quebec.

I have nothing to add, but that it is my Opinion, that if this Campaigne is to end with erecting a Work at Lake George, especially if that at the Carrying Place is not strengthen'd we shall be hard put to it next Summer to defend Albany; if on the

¹ In Ayer Collection, Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.

other hand the Pass at Tinonderoge is taken this year & kept (which I hope the daily Arrival of your Reinforcement from New England will enable you to do) it will put it into our Power to compass the Reduction of Crown point early the next Spring, if it should be found impracticable to do it this Fall, which yet I hope may be the Case.

I am.

Sir,

Your most Humble Servant.

W SHIRLEY

Extract from Lt. Gov^r. Lawrence's Letter ¹ to
Major General Shirley dated Halifax
July 16th. 1755.

"The strengthening ourselves upon the Isthmus is now The great Object of my Attention, more especially as I am inform'd by Admirall Boscawen, that it is most probable by this time a great part of the Troops intended directly for Quebec are arriv'd, which were about 17 or 1800 Men, exclusive of Officers: We are pretty certain that upwards of 1000 are got into Louisbourg, which, by all we can learn, were destin'd for this Place, with two sixty four Gun Ships, had not our Fleet happily fallen in with their's, and disconcert their Measures."

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.²

Albany 29 Sep^r. 1755.

DEAR S^r.

I this moment received your Letter and find you have mistaken my meaning very widely. I do not imagine it is necessary for you to ask a favour in the common acceptation of the Expression. I mean to inform Sir Charles of the footing on which youve accepted the direction of Indian Affairs, the prejudice these

¹ Which evidently also gave the paragraph to Braddock.

² Original destroyed by fire.

affairs have formerly occasioned to y^r. private Fortune and particularly the Sums you are in ¹ what you are informed was intended as an appointm^t. for you, and how far anything of that nature has been done for you. These things are well known here, but I very much doubt if they are in England. Sir Charles is a Gentleman who I think will not look upon you as a Debtor of his, if he represents these Facts, and sets forth the necessity the Gov^t are under of recompensing your Services and Losses, or run the risque of your throwing up the direction of Indⁿ. affairs which they must think, and I shall applaud you if you do, should they continue to neglect you. But you will consider how unusual it is for them to grant a Favour unask'd, how great soever the Merits or Pretensions of the Persons are. They are on the Contrary I acknowledge, too ready to forget these things when mentioned. Your Case is particular and it is as it were their own Interest to promote yours; you'l Excuse me then if I tell you again my Sentiments which are to write to Lord Halifax & lay your Case before him, Sir Charles will back it, when he knows from yourself what it is, and Mr. Pownall will join in the same Interest. This Measure once tryed, were it my own Affair I am sure I should not only act in the manner you think of doing, but would instantly shew a becoming Resentment, and throw a pall on y^e Commissions & Employments: and you'l do well in my opinion to tell his Lordship that the Expence attending Indian affairs, or even living among them in any publick Character, or otherwise than as an Inhabitant, will be too heavy for you to sustain, & reduce you to the Necessity of giving up the Management of them into their Hands. On this Occasion, I've often thought if there be any Person that can succeed you. As there is not, it ought to be the Care of the Ministry to appoint some power ² to assist you, to be intirely under your Direction & as you are the only person who can recommend that you should recommend him. Find out if you can one of your own Disposition, &

¹ An omission in the copy.

² "Power" in the copy. The word was probably "person."

by your Instructions he may fill your Place with Credit & in this way there ought to be a kind of succession even more than two, but all under the Superior — In short a kind of System must be formed for this Important End, and not left to the uncertain Events of little Expedients, such as a few Presents formall Messages and Stuff of that Sort, which may amuse them, but can never give the British Nation that Weight and Influence with them which we may feel the want of as long as there are Indians on the Continent.

The 30th.

Since the above I had this Morning some Conversation with Sir Charles, who is very uneasy at the present Situation of Affairs, and wonders you are not more explicit in pointing out the difficulties you find yourself under: Finishing Fort Edward, by building Barracks &c for the reception of a proper Garrison and building a defensible Fort at the Camp are points that take up much of his thoughts & indeed nothing else keeps him here. This Matter was mentioned in Council & referred to a Comm'ee this Morning who are to make Report: This I expect will be sent to you with a Letter from himself, recommending these Matters as independently necessary whether you proceed or Not; they are so obviously so, that a Man in his right Sences, must see it immediately. But as nearly as I can judge, you are opposed in almost every right measure. Sir Charles suspects this gives you great uneasiness. I told him I believed it did, and that I believed you thought yourself neglected by the Ministry at home in their not having fix'd some appointment for you before this time. He seem'd very desirous to know what you expected or desired, intimating as I thought that he would be very ready to give you his Interest. We were interrupted & the discourse ended. Besides these two Forts I think it necessary to build one between the Wood Creek and the South Bay; it seems by the Map there is a Situation that will command the entrance into the Wood Creek & the South Bay, unless the distance be greater than I apprehend. If you build no other than the picketed Fort at the Camp, it will

not be safe to leave any Stores or Cannon there on your Return, it would be a kind of Trap to catch us in, and if Mr. Eyres's Plan must not be pursued, Every thing must be brought back to Fort Edward, & if that be not secured by a proper Garrison every thing must be brought hither, a pretty affair indeed and for which we shall be deservedly laugh'd at, for if you take Crown Point, you must I think demolish it and retire to a Post where a Garrison can be supplied in the Winter, which it will be impracticable to do at the distance the former is. You'll hardly carry Provisions enough to leave there, and the Enemy will scarcely leave enough to answer this purpose — So that take the Matter in what view you please it is necessary to build these Forts. I shall not send this unless I have a very safe opportunity. No accounts from Oswego of any Consequence, an Express is expected hourly that went from here on the 20th: I am Sr. with great Sincerity

your obliged humble serv^t.

GW BANYAR

Oct. 1st. The Report is finished: you'll observe the Fort recommended at the South Bay is at the head of the South Bay, not where I mention, the L^t. Gov. thinking there is no Ground there but what is sometimes overflowed. It is conditional only; and if you determine not to proceed further, the least we can do is to build and secure these Forts, and if it is in your Power to remove the objections or to make the army do it, it will be a Reflection on you not to do it. All these Forts appear'd always to me absolutely necessary tho we had Crown Point, and one Expense now does it. I must observe to you that Sir Charles is very exact, and if he has a Right, will expect particular Information of every material Occurrence, as well as the Situation of your Army. He's uneasy that you are not explicit. looking on the whole affair this way, in great measure at least, within his own department, and that he may be answerable for any Mis-carriages that he could have prevented: — whether to go on or

Not is a Matter of very great Consequence to determine and the Considerations that prevent it ought to be very weighty as the Expence of these Reinforcements is immensely great, and every one, Save the few here who see some of your difficulties are fill'd with high Expectations. How will you pass with your Cannon from the Lake to Tieronderoga, a portage I am told of a mile & a quarter, or how will you carry your Cannon any considerable way. Can you preserve any of your Oxen for this purpose.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

A. D. S.¹

Camp at Lake George 29 Sep^r. 1755

At a Council of War held by General Johnson at his Tent.

Pres^t. Gen^l. Lyman & all the Field officers in Camp except Major Nicholls detained by his wound. Cap^t. Eyre Chief Engineer &c. Cap^t. Glazier Adjutant Gen^l.

Peter Wraxall Secr^y.

The General acquainted this Council of War, that having some Papers to lay before them & other Matters relative to the present State of this Army for their Consideration, & having been also applied to by some of the Members present to call a Council of War he had accordingly directed the Adjutant General to give Notice to all the Field officers in Camp to attend at 3 oClock this afternoon precisely.

1. The General then laid before this Council of War the Last Returns made him of the Troops in this Camp the Returns of the Commissaries of Provisions also the Returns of the Several Surgeons of the Sick & Wounded with their Observations & Opinions upon the Disorders most prevalent here &c. Upon which the General desired the Opinion & advice of the Members present, what might be most Expedient for the good of the present Service.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

2. The General acquainted this Council of War, that he went this Morning to see in what forwardness the Picketted Fort & flat Bottomed Boats were, and that he did not see above a dozen Men at the Fort who were sitting down & no work going forward, and that there was not one flat Bottomed Boat finished and Lieut. Combes one of the Overseers of the Workmen told the General that he had not above 10 or 12 hands to work. The General further put this Council of War in mind that it had formerly been agreed that 500 Men should daily work at the said Fort till it was finished, and near 100 Carpenters were promised to work at the s^d. Flat Bottomed Boats till a suff^t. number were compleated; agreeable to which he Issued his Orders and as a sufficient number of said Boats were unanimously judged also lately necessary to carry on the present Expedition The General desired this Council of War will take the Consequences of this delay therein into their serious Consideration, and propose what further Measures he can follow or what other Orders he can give which may be effectual to remedy those Consequences.

3. The General also acquainted this Council of War that a number of Soldiers in this Camp daily come with Complaints to him & his Aid de Camp of the loss of their Blanketts & of their Distress thereby & also of their want of Cloaths, both w^{ch} he apprehends may if not speedily remedied, produce fatal Effects to the present Service, and that it already makes it extreemly difficult to get the Men to do the daily Duty of this Camp.

4. The General acquainted this Council of War that Sr. Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York had in his Letters to him from Albany expressed his Opinion that a more respectable Fort than a picketted One should be built here & so constructed as to be able to receive a proper Garrison for its Security this Winter, together with proper Magazines for Provisions & Stores, all which (he writes) he judges necessary to facilitate the Expedition or to support Crown Point if taken, and that Albany concurr in the same Opinion.

5. The General laid before this Council of War the Opinion of Cap^t. Eyre Chief Engineer & director of the Artillery with

regard to the Artillery & Stores w^{ch} he judges necessary to proceed wth against the Enemy considering the late Intelligences obtained, if those are to be depended on.

Upon the First Article this Council of War is of Opinion, that all such Men as shall be judged by the Commanding officers of each Regiment & the Surgeons, unfit for Duty & unlikely to be fit for Duty this Fall, should be discharged

Upon the Second Article The Council are of Opinion that Col Baglys Proposals in the Minutes of the Council of War of the 27 Inst be now considered w^{ch} they apprehend may produce their Opinion upon this Article.

The Council are of Opinion that Major Champlin be desired to give in to the General a Calculation what Quantity of Provisions 7000 Men will consume in 7 days & how much time it will probably take to have them brought here & that he transmit the same with the Minutes of this Council to Several Gov^{ts} concerned.

Col. Bagly desired leave to withdraw his Second Proposals & that part of the 3^d. relating to the Reinforcements upon the last Article of his 3^d. Proposal relating to a Place of Strength &c.

It is the Opinion of the this Council that a Place of Strength with Magazines & Stores houses & Barracks be immediately set about to be built with all possible Dispatch. Resolved by this Council of War that it be made large enough to Garrison upon Occasion 500 Men & that 700 Men with such officers as the General shall appoint be detached out of this Army to work constantly in compleating the said Fort under the Direction of Cap^t. Eyre w^{ch} Men are to be excused from all other Duty.

PETER WRAXALL

Sec^{ry}.

TO WILLIAM EYRE

Df.

Camp at Lake George 29 Sep^r. 1755

S^R.

I desire you will give me y^r. Opinion in Writing — whether the Artillery & Stores thereunto belong^s at this Camp, at Fort Edward & left on the Road between said Fort & Albany are, according to the Intelligences we have received relating to the Enemy suff^t. for proceeding on the present Expedition

Y^{rs}. &^c

TO CAPT EYRE

Chief Engineer &^c.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

Lake George 29th. Sep: 1755

SIR

Pursuant to Y^r. order of this Day, to know my opinion whether the Artillery & Stores here, at Fort Edward, & on the Road from Albany to the last Mentioned Place are Sufficient to proceed against Crown Point, I answer no upon the Supposition that our Acc^{ts}. from the Front are to be depended on, As their Information acquaints us that they have (Meening the Enemy) thirty three Pieces of Cannon, many of them 16 & 24 p^{drs}. equal or nearly to our 24 & 32 p^{drs}., and also thirty five mortors. now our strength consists of four Battering Pieces, viz. two 32 p^{drs}. & two 18 p^{drs}. two 12 p^{ds}. & eight 6 p^{ds}. besides one 13 Inch Morter with four Smaller ones from five Inch & a half Diameter to Seven Inches, and add to this a Scarcity of 6 p^d.

Ball. These are my reasons for determing me to think our present State of Artillery not sufficient.

I am Sr.

Yr. Most Ob^t. Serv^t.

WILL: EYRE

TO GENERAL JOHNSON.

N. B:

Our Howitz Split during the late Engagement

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 30 Sep^r. 1755

SIR

This letter will be delivered to your Excellency by Mr. Wraxall my only Aid de Camp & Sec^{ry}. from my first entering upon the Command of this Army to w^{ch} he has also acted as Judge Advocate all without any appointm^t. or Perquisite.

I cannot send your Excellency a Person whom I think more capable or more proper, to give you all those Lights with the assistance of the Papers he carries with him w^{ch} may be needful to assist y^r. Excellencys Judgment of our present Sittuation & those future Proceedings w^{ch}. may be most adviseable. I have given Mr. Wraxall my Instructions part of w^{ch} are to desire y^r. Excellencys opinion with relation to the Expedition under my command all present known circumstances considered, and that you will be pleased to furnish him therewith as soon as may be convenient that he may proceed with it & his other Dispatches & Papers according to my instructions to Boston & the other Gov^{ts}. whose Troops compose this Army.

Tho I have not the pleasure w^{ch}. I very much long for of being Personally known to y^r. Excellency, permit me Sir to introduce Mr. Wraxall to you as a Person who has been highly serviceable

¹ The original destroyed by fire.

to the publick & one for whom I have a singular esteem. I am most respectfully, Sir

Yr Excellencys

INDORSED: Copy of Letter to Sr. Charles
Hardy & other Gov^{rs}.

TO TIMOTHY RUGGLES

An order, dated September 30th, from Johnson to Colonel Timothy Ruggles, calling for spades and shovels, and authorizing the detention of Massachusetts troops at Fort Edward, followed the preceding in the Johnson Calendar, p. 54. It was destroyed by fire.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Copy*¹

Camp at Lake George 30th. Sep^t. 1755

SIR

I wrote your Excellency a long Letter dated 22^d Inst, and theirwith transmitted you sundry Papers referred to in my said Letter —

Herewith I send,

- N^o. 1. The Last Returns of the men in this Camp fit for Duty & sick.
2 Commissaries returns of Provisions
3. The Surgeons Returns with their Opinions and Observations
4. The Returns of the Artillery Stores and Ammunition
5. Cap^t. Eyre's Report Concerning the Artillery
6 Minutes and Extracts from Minutes of Councils of War
7 Minutes of Council of War of 29th: Inst.
8 Plans of Fort Edward & of Fort designed here by Cap^t. Eyre with a Sketch of this Encampment —
9 Copy of Cap^t. Roger's Intelligence of Crown Point

¹ In Massachusetts Archives. The draft was destroyed by fire.

10. Copy of Ditto's Intelligence Posture of the Enemy at Ticonderogo
- 11 Roll of French Indians who Came with the Troops under Baron de Dieskau
12. Major Champlin's Report Concerning Waggon. &c.

These Sir will Lead you into the most Distinct View. I am able to give you of our Present Scituation, and all matters relative to my Command. I beg your Excellency will Look into Them, and transmit me your Opinion and Directions as soon as Possible; I am apprehensive from the almost Universall Inclination of The Troops to Return home and refresh Themselves, That there may be some Difficulties in geting a proper number of men to Garrison The Intended Fort here, as well as Fort Edward, and Perhaps unless some Additional Pay be Given it may not be Compased without Compulsion, which does not appear to me a Prudent method.

The Good of the Service induced me, and I have for Forms sake given Mr. Beamsly Glazier a Commission as Adjutant General to this Army. He is a Very Active and Serviceable man and Wou'd I Think be a Proper officer to Command this Fort.

Mr. Wraxall my only Aid de Camp and Secretary, and Who has also Acted as Judge Advocate to this Army Carries this Letter to Albany, to forward from thence to your Excellency; I thought it necessary to send some Person to lay before Sr. Charles Hardy the present Scituation and state of affairs relating to my Command, and to proceed forward to do the same to the Goverments and Commanders in Cheif of the severall Goverments who have Troops on this Expedition, and I did not know a more Capable or Proper Person, I Could send then Mr. Wraxall, tho I very unwillingly Part with him, as his assistance has been and Would be Very usefull to me; but my reasons for Dispatching him are more prevalent than those for keeping him Still with me

He is to endeavour to obtain and Carry on with him The

Opinion of the several Governments relative to this Expedition, and to proceed from Albany to Boston, and also to desire the Several Governments to transmit their Opinions to your Excellency with all Possible Dispatch

I am
most Respectfully
Sir your Excellency's &c
W^m. Johnson

A Scouting Party of the New Hampshire Reg^t. Bro^t In yesterday a Wounded Indian of The Penobscot Tribe, who was the Second Person of that nation at the Kennebeck treaty last year; he was Among the Indians at the late Engagement: tho I have used Every method I Can get Nothing to be Depended on from him, the New Hampshire and Other Scouts dailey find numbers of the Enemy Slain in The Woods.

a true Copy ex^d:

W^M. . . ALEXANDER Sec^y

To his Excellency
General Shirley &c

TO PETER WRAXALL

*Df.*¹

[30 Sep^r. 1755]

That P. W. receive the Generals Instructions viz

To go from this Camp to Albany & if the Gov^r of New York is there, to lay before him the follow^g. Papers

1. The Last returns of Men fit for Duty & Sick.
2. The Commiss^{rs}. Returns of Provisions
3. Returns of Artillery Stores & Amunion in this Army
4. Doctors reports of Sick & Opinions thereupon
5. [*Returns of Batoes here & at Fort Edward fit for Service.*]²

¹ By W^raxall.

² Words in italics and enclosed in brackets are erased in manuscript.

6. Papers taken from French Gen^l. & taken from the Enemy.
7. [*Intelligence from Prisoners*]¹
8. Copy of French Gen^{ls}. Letter to.
9. Intelligence from Crown Point & Tionderogue from
Cap^t. Rogers & C.
10. Minutes of Councils of War
11. Minutes of Council of War of the 29 Sep^r.
12. Sketch of present Encampm^t.
13. Plans of Fort Edward & Fort Henry proposed here
14. Cap^t. Eyre's Report concerning Artillery.
15. Minutes of last public Conferences wth the Indians in
this Camp.
16. [*French Gen^{ls} Memor^m. of State of his Army
Number of Men at Fort Edw^d.*]¹

and to Acquaint Sr. Char^s. Hardy with all such other particulars as may be necessary to give him the most ample State of this Army within the knowledge & abilities of the said P. W. who is in the Generals name to request Sr. Charles's Opinion on the whole with regard to future Proceedings & Prospects in writing. All w^{ch} he is to endeavour to get finished with the utmost Dispatch, & then proceed without Delay with all the aforesaid Papers to Lieut Gov^r. Phipps of Massachusetts Bay & pursue the same Directions in relation to him as above mentioned to Sr. Char^s. Hardy & desire Gov^r. Phipps to dispatch Expresses with Copies of all the above Papers &c. to the Gov^{rs}. of New Hampshire & Rhode Island unless Gov^r. Hardy & Phipps should think any other method more eligible. you are then to take Gov^r. Phipps advice for y^r. proceeding to Connecticut in order to go thro the same measures with Gov^r. Fitch as you had done to him & Gov^r. Hardy after that you are to proceed to New York where you shall hear from me. You are to send me to this Camp unless you receive my future Directions to the Contrary as frequent advices of your Proceedings & transmit me all such Papers all such Intelligence as you shall shall² needful for the good of the Service & my future regulation.

¹ See note 2, p. 123. ² Repetition and omission in the original.

Provided the Advice of any of the Gov^{rs} should be for altering the Plan of y^r. Proceedings herein given or adding any thing further to them, you are at liberty to act thereon according to your best Discretion.

INDORSED BY JOHNSON: Instructions to Captⁿ. Wraxall.

REPLY OF INDIANS TO MESSENGERS ¹

*At a Council held at the City of
Albany on Wednesday the first day
of October 1755.*

Present

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy Knight Capt. General &^{ca}.

James De Lancey	} Esquires
Daniel Horsmanden	
John Rutherford	

. . .

The Reverend Mr. John Ogilvie who returned
this Evening from the Mohawk Castles, whither
himself and Mr. Van Schaick had been sent to
deliver a Message from his Excellency ² to the
Indians there (Mr. Van Schaick being gone for-
ward with it to the other Nations) waited on his
Excellency in Council, and presented the answer
of the two Castles to the said Message, at the same time
acquainting his Excellency, that notwithstanding it appeared by
the Answer of the lower Castle, that they were averse to the
joining the Army again, he found on his return thither from the
upper Castle, that Several of the Warriors were determined to
return and join General Johnson, and that he believed about
thirty of them would proceed accordingly.

¹ In Council Minutes, 25:88-90.

² See Message to Indians, September 24, 1755.

The Answers being read were ordered to be entered and are as follow.

Fort Williams 7^{ber} 26th 1755.

The Indians (of the lower Castle) answer to his Excellency's Message sent by Sybrant Van Schaick Esq^r. and the Reverend Mr. John Ogilvie. Interpreted by Jacobus Clement

Abraham alias Saghstaghretsy spoke and asked whether we were ready to receive their Answer, and that we should inform them of it, when it was told them that we were now ready to hear.

Then Peter alias Tacquayanont (who lately turn'd from the French) directing his discourse to his Excellency the Governor spoke as follows.

Brother

We return you our sincere thanks for the kind and tender manner in which you have covered our dead, and we are well pleased that at your first coming into your Government, You have expressed so great a regard for our people and in a manner agreeable to our ancient Customs.

Shew'd the String and Retook it.

Brother

We are heartily glad upon your safe arrival over the great Lake, and we are thankfull to the King our Father who has appointed You. We are sensible of the great Business You are engaged in at present, and hope for a happy Meeting when the publick Business will admit of it.

Shewed the Belt.

Brother

You have pressed us to return and join our Brother General Johnson. Our behaviour in the late Battle is a Sufficient proof that we are firm in your Interest. But considering the great loss we have had, you should have allowed us to breathe and to recover our Spirits, look round and see how

our Warriors are thinned; do you not think this gives us great concern? Would you swallow all our Fighters at once? You now call upon us Mohawks to rise and go forth immediately, but as the upper Nations have met with no loss, we would advise you to use your Endeavours with them, and strive to get them out upon this occasion.

We were likewise promised upon our going out, that this Castle should be guarded. It is true you have put an officer with 25 Men in to the Fort. But as the Fort and our Castle are separate from each other, we do not think it is sufficient, as this Officer if anything should happen, could not be at the King's Fort and in our Castle at the same time.

You have covered our dead and then immediately desired us to go out to Battle: This Seems very inconsiderate. Do you think that we should leave our Women and Children to be swallowed up with Sorrow. At first when we were desired to go out, it was told us we should only serve as Scouts, and in case of the Enemy's approach, we were promised to be led aside, but instead of that, we were placed in the Front of the Battle, and met with a considerable loss of some of our principal Men and Fighters, and you see now what a little number of us are present at this Meeting.

Upon which the Speaker returned the Belt, which shews their not complying with our Request.

Connajoharie September the 29th: 1755

The Indians (of the upper Castle) answer upon the Message aforesaid.

Abraham (Henry's Brother killed on the late Battle) spoke and addressed his Excellency the Governor.

Brother

We are sensible of your great goodness in sending us this Message; and return you our hearty thanks, that upon this

Melancholly Occasion you have covered our dead Warriors. We look upon this as a particular Mark of your Understanding, that upon your first coming into the Government you conformed so exactly to our ancient Customs.

Brother

We are thankfull to our Father the King for <your appointment> to the Government, and we Congratulate you upon your safe <arrival. We> are particularly sensible of the Great King our Father's Goodness <in giving> you directions to assure us of his gracious protection.

Brother

You have taken notice of the Friendship which Subsists between the English and us. We acknowledge it, and think it our duty to maintain it.

Brother

You pressed us to join our brother Warraghjeyagey. We have considered of it, and look upon it reasonable. But as this matter intirely concerns our Warriors, We leave them to Act as they think best, and make no doubt that several of them will join General Johnson, <tho> not so many as we could wish, because Several of them are now very Sick since their return from the Camp.

FROM ROBERT ORME

A. L. S.¹

New York, Oct. ye 1st. 1755

D^R SIR

I take the Opportunity of an Express going to Albany to send you my hearty Congratulations upon your late glorious Success your Honor and Advantage give me leave to assure you will ever be most agreeable to and sincerely desired by me. I wish you may be able to succeed in your great Undertaking

¹Original destroyed by fire.



THE JOHNSON(?) PORTRAIT
(At Buffalo)

but I despair of it this Season by the lateness of it and I can easily conceive the various Sentiments and Oppositions you have to combat with in a Camp of such extraordinary People. I wish I could have rec'd those Papers relative to your Congress and also have heard from you before I left this place I wish you would do me the Favor to write to me in England directing for me in Hollis Street near Cavendish Square pray present my Compliments to M^r. Wraxall and believe me D^r Sir

Y^r Sencere Friend & Humble Ser^{vt}.

ROB ORME

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

2^d. Oct. 1755.

S^R

I forgot when I put up the Pacquet this moment, to mention a Report that has reached Sir Charles, & which I heard this Morning. I mean the Differences between Gen. Lyman & Cap^t Eyre, and the universal dissatisfaction and Quarrels among the officers. I hope you will use your Authority to prevent the ill Consequences that must otherwise attend such Broils, if the Case be really as reported, since no Good can be expected from an Army in such a situation. Y^{rs}. &c

GW BANYAR

INDORSED: To Major General Johnson
at the Camp.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

FROM SIR CHARLES HARDY

L. S.¹*Albany 2 Oct^{br}. 1755*

I have received your two letters of the 26 and 28 of September, and shall as soon as possible send you the Guns you desire For the future when you make any Demands of this sort, I must desire you will let me know the Service for which you want, or the Result of the Council of War.

Upon examining the two Plans of the Forts, I am still of the opinion the Fort proposed to be built on the Lake by the chief Engineer ought to have been built, instead of the picketed one you are now finishing. My Letter to you of the 21st of September carried you my opinion on this head, and I am confirmed in these sentiments with respect to the Importance of that Post, whatever may be the Success of the Expedition against Crown Point. I could urge many Reasons on this Matter, but the inclosed opinion, of His Majesty's Council here before whom I laid the Plans, and referred the further Consideration of it, is so full, that it will save me the Repetition of them. I therefore judg'd it proper to send you their Report to me, and shall only add that as you must leave a proper Force in your Camp when you proceed towards Crown Point, I am of opinion, if that Work was begun before you go, those left behind you may ² reception of a sufficient Garrison, to maintain it against any Force the Enemy may send this Winter, and to prevent their making any Incursion into these Provinces.

I observe upon the Plan you sent me of Fort Edward Captain Eyre is of opinion the Ditch should be deepned and enlarged, and the Parapet and Rampart made higher and broader, and as it does not appear to me there are now proper Barracks for

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Manuscript torn; several words missing.

lodging Men or Stores for Provisions, I must recommend it to you to order those Works to be set about, that they may be completed before the bad Season sets in, which I apprehend may be done by the Garison there, You will consider of the Importance of this Post for the Security of Hudson's River, upon which the Safety of these Provinces greatly depends; and you will observe i<s¹> the inclosed Report of the Council that Governor Fitch, is the same opinion with my self, with regard to the Forts, and the Importance of those Posts.

Last Night Mr. Ogilvie returned from the Mohawks Castle,² he tells me some of their Warriors will join you, and that he believes part of them may set out to-day, I hope they will soon be with you³ with five others raised by Subscriptions in that City to serve in your Army as Gunners I shall detain them here to go to you with the Cannon. I intend to give Mr. Bayard a Commission, but as I do not know what Train officers you have with you, if I can get no Information before he leaves this City, I shall leave a blank in the Commission for your filling up, and I must desire you will give him as high Rank as you can, that of Captain I should approve.

The last Article of the Council's Report which recommends the Securing a Pass on the hither End of the South Bay is a Matter you will consider of, and not let the Constructing such a Work retard your proceeding on the Expedition, as that must be left till next year, if it cannot be done this.

I have been in hopes of seeing a proper Person from you, that might give me the Informations you thought necessary to communicate to me, and must desire you will let me know as soon as possible, if you will want Shott for the small Cannon I shall send you. carrying three and four pound Ball, as we have none of

¹ "Is" in copy; should be "in" evidently.

² See Reply of Indians to Messengers, October 1, 1755.

³ Manuscript torn; several words missing.

that size here, part of these Cannon I suppose you intend shall be mounted at Fort Edward. I am Sir,

Your most obed^t. humble Servant.

CHAS. HARDY

To:

GENERAL JOHNSON.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A letter of the 2d from Goldsbrow Banyar to Johnson, following the above, was destroyed by fire. Cannon, boats, wagons, stores, reinforcements and public interest in the expedition were the subjects. See Johnson Calendar, p. 54.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

Lake George 3^d. Oct. 1755

SIR

I received your Excell^{ys}. favour of the 2^d. Inst: last night, and can only now add that it is, & always was my opinion, to have this Place well fortified, as likewise some work of strength at the Carrying Place: the first is now begun and I hope will be so completed as to answer the Intended Purposes and as to the other (I mean Fort Edward) the Garison now is employed in building Barracks &c for a proper number of Troops, but can not without some inconveniency at present set about strengthening the Ramparts, this I propose to go upon when our Work here has got into some forwardness. The Cannon I mentioned to your Excell^y I believe will be most Serviceable (at present) at Fort Edward, as there is no Artillery there, And what we have got here will not be too much for the Fort now a building. We have none of that sort of Shot y^r. Excellency talks of sending for less than 6 p^d^{rs}. As to my opinion in regard to a Fort at the End of South Bay, to be now put in hands, I look upon it not to be practicable, nor prudent, as it will oblige us to divide our Force

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

& consequently give the enemy their choice which Part of y^e. army to attack; besides I assure you the men are not over willing to carry on what is now in Hands.

As Cap^t. Wraxall is before this time with y^r. Excell^y. I think it unnecessary to repeat the same that I sent by him, and what further you desire to know I believe he can Satisfy you in. I should have been much more explicit in my former Letters had it not been for fear of the acc^{ts}. falling into the Enemy's Hands, & thinking at the same time, to send Down Mr. Wraxall, who I judged would better answer the purpose, I am y^r. Excellency's
Most Obedient Humble Serv^t.

His Excellency GOV^R. HARDY.

FROM PHILIP RICHARDSON

Adjutant Philip Richardson's report of October 3d, to Johnson on mounting guard following the preceding in the Johnson Calendar was destroyed by fire. See Calendar, p. 54.

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.¹

Albany 3. October 1755

DEAR SIR

I arrived here last night about 7 oClock stopped at y^r. house, delivered your Sis^r her Letter, went to the Gov^r. supped, & went to Bed greatly fatigued with the Gov^r. was only Lieut. Gov^r. & Oliver,² Banyar came in a little before Supper Conversation various but enough to let me see they were for pushing forward & at least making some Effect³ to compound for the great additional Expences by Reinforcements.

This Morning waited on S^r. Charles with Papers he & Lieut. Gov^r. only present at first, Horsmanden⁴ came in at the latter

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² De Lancey.

³ "Effect" in the copy. It should probably be "effort."

⁴ Daniel Horsmanden, one of the Council, afterward Chief Justice.

end of my reading them (for I read them Number by Number) They ridicul'd Doctors reports, said they were pompous & in many points incredible. Major Champlins Calculation *they believed* not correct, (the delay of Waggons I found touched a sore place) we were never like to have 7000 Men fit for Duty. Did not believe the Enemys artillery were any ways equal to the Informations mentioned in Cap^t. Eyre's Opinion — *perhaps a few Small Mortars & a few 6 pounders*. Cap^t. Rodgers' Intelligence from Tionderogo, not to be depended on, should send again & again to be confirmed in the Truth of it — I told 'em I did not believe there was another Man in the Army woud go, *try if there is not*, was replied. Councils of War short & not explicit in their Opinions, told 'em you were aware of that, but for political reasons found they would not or at least those who led would not, mentioned L.¹ & R.² saying whatever their private Opinion they would not give it in Council against proceeding. That you should put points, Vis how many men adviseable to proceed & with how many days Provisions & oblige the Council to give a positive Answer, or tell 'em you would complain to their Gov^{ts}. Flat Bottomed Boats agreed to be put in hand ab^t. Sep^r. y^e 29. a Complaint that not one quite finished. *how come that matter not taken notice of before?* I told 'em Orders had been given, Carpenters would not work, numbers proposed not to be had. If Orders not obeyed (was replied) complain to Gov^{ts}. of their officers for disobedience & thereby stopping the Service. Upon this Article of Flat Bottomed Boats & want of the 100 Carpenters, I wish you would direct Webster & Combes to draw up & Issue a Report & send me Copy. I represented in general & gave many particular Instances of the constant & little regard payd to y^r. Orders. Gov^r. said he believed it, saw y^r. Sittuation & pited you, but that you should threaten leading officers & complain before now to their Gov^{ts}. of it.

¹ General Phineas Lyman.

² Colonel Timothy Ruggles.

Gov^r. said he would make a push with 4000 Men, march by Land, some artillery & provisions in Battoes by water. Will you call a Council & propose? 1. with what number of men it will be adviseable to proceed & make at least an Effort, if the Enemy found by a Council of War (to be called when you come near them) too strong to be attacked & that nothing can be done why then retreat, Gov^{ts}. will be satisfied that trial was made & will not be easy otherwise.

This or some what to this purpose said.

2^d. how many days Provisions to take along? it was doubted whether there were not provisions enough to make a push & leave suff^t. with what daily coming for the rest of the Troops (get a rough return of Quantity of Provisions in Camp, great Quantities gone since the last return & much live Stock. Lyman has no more Bread here — Emerson but little).

3^dly. Whether Reinforcements shall be ordered up Make 'em give a positive Answer to these points & please to send me Copy as soon as possible.

In short S^r. Charles seemed to think you should bring matters to a point with the Council of War. Another thing was said, that the Troops w^{ch} lay idle here should mend Boats. I answered where were their Tools all we had were employed about the Tent¹ — no reply was made to it. between Fort Edward & Seraghtoga roads very bad — Many almost impassible places between this & Seraghtoga — Call Waggoners & take their Opinion & also officers who have commanded late Convoys. You must have flour up & not Bread. make it a fourth Article about Ovens. Fort is a most agreeable Subject, Gov^r. Fitch approves it. 18 Pd^s.² cannot go from hence till roads are mended, ask Waggoners — they are under your immediate Orders Council of War you know advised to have them up, reason must be

¹ "Tent" in the copy. It plainly should be "fort."

² "Cos." in the copy. See, however, Hardy to Johnson, October 5, 1755.

given why not ordered cant Field ps. go in Battoes. they said if you could not attack Tionderogo why not the advanced post of the 1000—Lieut. Gov^r. said the Carrying Place the beginning or Landing 3 Miles from where Fort & grand Camp is. how is that? On the whole I found they were combined to bring this Province off about Waggons & if a Pass¹ is not made or good reasons given against it the cry will be raised. most of the old Stock of Provisions is gone up, I have not had time to get a particular Acc^t. what remains here, I will do it tomorrow. This is the Substance of what past this day from 9 to near 1 oClock. my reflections are crude & unconnected upon it, I can only throw out loose hints w^{ch} you will improve & enlarge within your self. I expect Maj^r. Hoare to call for this Packet every Minute. He bro^t. a Letter from Gov^r. Phipps I presumed to open it (being directed on His Majesty's Service) in order to offer my Opinion if points occurred. Am glad I did. Hansen, Stevenson & I dont know who else opened y^r. General Letter, sent by Express, upon acct of the outside writing w^{ch} was to send Copy to Gov^r. Shirley. they took Copy & sent it, Inclosed it again to Gov^r. Phipps, but forgot to put Minutes of Council in w^{ch} Stevenson sent afterwards. I'll enquire distinctly into the affair and if you please you may refer the Explanation to me in a Line or two to Gov^r. Phipps. French Gen^l. is easily answered. he could go no where but to New York by reason of his Wounds. poor Man I saw him this Evening—I think he cant live long. Wants to go to New York. Gov^r. says not in a Condition.

This afternoon Stevenson gave me a Letter from Shirleys Aid de Camp ordering me positively up to Oswego to my Comp^y. Showed it to S^r. Charles told me to write 3 Lines to him, that I was engaged to you & public Service would suffer by my abandoning you & the Cause I was engaged in & he would settle it with Gov^r. Shirley. says unless Shirley shows him powers equal

¹ "Push" probably.

to Braddocks, he shant command Indept. Comps. Sr. Charles a prerogative Man & dos not seem to want Spirit. Speaks highly & friendly of you, but wants you to make Council of War speak out, & that you prove plainly, no Stop on y^r. side. Are there provisions for the reinforcements, if so, will you order them up. I hav't seen Collonels, will tomorrow If Sr. Charles gives me time, he talked of giving me some answer, but said private Orders, he did not think prudent, public he believed Council would decline. Rutherford says nothing will satisfie but a Trial, he knows it will fail but says it must be made. he thinks as we do in all other points.

Sr. Charles expects to fill up vacancies in Cockcrofts Regt.—let Cockcrofts give him an account of 'em. Champlin, Thody will & must help Adams write or Copy, publick papers. Suppose you proposed a push to where the thousand Men are or some where on this side of 'em. by what I can judge, they are little Solicitous here whether it succeeds or no, so that some attempt is made. If you try, I know Men wont go & want of Cloathing &c. will be a plea, let it be so & then Truth will glare, it only glimmers now. send for reinforcements & try them, if provisions Short send 'em back again. Turenne¹ must not go away. Nor Ruggles who told me he should apply.

Sr. Charles & Lieut. Gov^r. say the papers to be carried thro the Gov^{ts}. will only discourage them, Cloud all their Hopes — I mistrust they are affraid of Consequences upon this Province about Waggon. I said, you thought these things should not be concealed they said the Facts were not strong enough supported. I said I could enlarge support &c. They said by & by when matters had a stronger Light thrown on them twould be better, I said no, misrepresentations would anticipate & prejudice your Judgments. Several Vessells from Connecticut & Boston on the way, some in the River & some warm Cloathing arrived, may be with you by the time you are ready. I shall wait

¹ An ironical allusion to Lyman.

your answer to this & your Commands & perhaps send you an Express to morrow with more particulars, & some of these more perfected. I am forced to write just as matters come into my Memory. I have not time to digest & put things into form. I am extreemly anxious to have you call the Council of War & bring things to a point I hope my rough hints, lame & Slovenly as they are may be of Service. depending Heart & Soul is devoted to serve you & to make you appear in that honourable Light w^{ch} you truly deserve. Adjutant General should make a report in writing how ill all orders are observed. I know tis a tender point, policy obliges him to Shun it & I believe you must not urge it too Strong I tried warmly, but found he gave back — If flat bot-tomed Boats dont go on, reasons must be given & also why they have not.

God almighty bless you & be assured I truly am

My Dear Sir Your faithful Affect'e Fr^d. & Serv^t.

PETER WRAXALL

to day I propose to read Sir Charles particulars in point from my Journal beginning with y^r. entering on the Comm^d. & account for every day I have read it to Rutherford he is convinced of every thing.

S^r. Charles is anxious but I dont think prejudice, tho I suspect y^e late & indeed present Great man is y^e Snake in y^e Grass. dont forget me to Eyres I ¹ as Proxy for him, her Eyes struck fire at it.

¹ An omission in the copy; original apparently illegible.

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L.¹Albany 4 Octo^r. 1755

DEAR SIR

Major Hoare² who was to have set off very early this Morning was prevented by S^r. Charles Hardy who was writing a Letter to you, this Letter is not yet finished tho now 6 oclock p. m. The Major proposes to set off early to morrow morning. For above an hour before Dinner I was with S^r. Charles alone. He is of opinion I should not proceed to the other Gov^{ts}. but on the contrary return to you immediately provided I thought myself at Liberty to do so from your Instructions, w^{ch}. I showed to him. I told him that I imagined it would be most agreeable to you for me to wait an Answer from you with your Directions w^{ch} of the Two I should do. He repeated again that he thought these Papers & my being sent with them would only embroil the Gov^{ts}. & render their hopes desperate with regard to the Expedition for this year. I believe it would be the natural Consequence of their perusing these Papers, but then I told Sir Charles the Cloud must burst very soon, & that unaprizd of it they were at present, they might reproach you for keeping them in the Dark, & by that means give your Enemies if you had any (as was probable) an advantage over you. He again urged the opinions of Council of War were not explicit enough to serve the purpose intended, & some of the papers of too gloomy a Cast to be perfectly consistent with that general opinion w^{ch}. stands minuted in the last Council of War.

There appears to me reason in the Argument. They are extreamly urgent for having the Fort finished without delay in the most respectable manner. That everything on your side be pushed forward in order to be ready to make an Effort whether

¹ Unfinished. Original destroyed by fire.

² Major William Hoar, later employed by Governor Shirley in enlisting men at Lake George. See Shirley to Bradstreet, *Correspondence of William Shirley*, ed. Charles Henry Lincoln, 2:335.

that should be complied with by the Council of War hereafter, or not, if the latter that it may appear you did every thing w^{ch} could reasonably be expected from or was incumbent upon you.

Sunday Morn^g. here I broke off, & went to Sr. Charles again. I found him finishing his Letter to you. I told him that as he seemed to approve my immediate return to you

INDORSED: Cap^t. Wraxalls Letter

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

*A. L. S.*¹

Albany 5 Oct. 1755

A few minutes after Cap^t. Wraxall's departure several sloops came in from York. Sir John Sinclair, was arrived there, also Captain Orme who is gone to Boston to embark for London, Lieu^t. Miller & Ogilvie. Dunbar was expected there yesterday, & I am told was determined none of his People should stop at N York. I'll send you the Papers I can pick up. From Mr. Wraxall I learn'd much of your present Situation. Bad as it is, I can't say I'm at all apprehensive any thing that may reflect on your Conduct can be laid to your charge; I would do every thing to forward the Service, & make the necessary Preparations for a Push, in which case if any thing prevents it, you'll have the Satisfaction of convincing the World you've done your duty. Facts and not People's reports or Surmises, too much, often, the Effect of Inclination or Resentment, will set things, and this is not the time to lay them open to view. At the same time that the preparations are making for your moving, I hope you'll be extremely attentive to the Works in hand, and see that the proper accommodations are made for Garrisons, a Matter of infinite Consequence, and if built strong and tenable, will in my opinion, with the disappointment the enemy have met with in their defeat, I had almost said, amply repay us for the Expence tho it be very great indeed: Have both objects in view. I believe Dunbar will have

¹Original destroyed by fire.

time enough, & if he sho'd join you, I would not differ as to the Command; it in my opinion clearly belongs to him, and if he is prudent he'll do nothing but attack a Fort or Intrenchments but in consequence of your opinion, and in this Case the Council of Warr will advise him whether to go on or not, in which you'll have only a Voice & consequently not so great weight to rest on you. Dont let any thing give you too much uneasiness. So far as I can see into Matters, if there be any Blame it will not lye at your door, nor any where in particular, but is to be attributed to many Causes, in which most of the Governments will share. As to the Command, I suspect more Difficulty in those under you. I hope you propose writing home on your own affairs. I dont like your setting down on the meagre food of Resentm^t: and twould be too great an injury to your self when you write on this Head, be explicit as to the appointment you'd have. I like that much that is proposed for you, but remember it should give you Rank, or I dont think it worth your acceptance, and if they dont repay you the Sums you've advanced, it will be a poor Recom-pense, considering the infinite Trouble it will be attended with.

The 6th. I hear by Dr. Middleton who conveys this that you are much indisposed which I attribute in some Measure to the Concern you are under. I still suspect we shall do ¹ from Oswego, the Express arrived about 3 oClock this afternoon but nothing has transpired. I impatiently wait to hear that you are better and am Dr. Sir

your affectionate humble Servant

GW BANYAR

TO MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON
at the Camp.

TO BENNING WENTWORTH

A letter of the 6th to Benning Wentworth, commending Colonel Blanchard and regiment on return home, explaining that Symes and Rogers, scouts, consent to remain, and mentioning despatches sent by Wraxall for the governors, was destroyed by fire. See Johnson Calendar, p. 55.

¹ Sentence not completed.

FROM SIR CHARLES HARDY

L. S.¹*Albany October 5th. 1755*

SIR

I have received your Letter of the 30th. Septem^r. by Mr. Wraxall, and have examined all the Papers he brought with him.

I observe by your Instructions to him, he is directed after having advised with me to repair to the other Governments and lay those Papers before them.

Upon a due consideration of the whole after a close Examination of the Papers sent by Mr. Wraxall, I cannot see any use in his going to the different Governments with them, but I fear great Evil may attend it. You will consider the Provinces concerned in the Expedition under your Command, have been at a very great new Expence in making the necessary Provision for this Service, great Numbers of Men have come into this City (and now remain here) to reinforce your Army, these big with Expectation in going forward, what will be the case if nothing is done, or even attempted.

I cannot undertake to give you an opinion as You have desired by your Instructions to Mr. Wraxall, either in a Publick, or private Capacity, the Business is of great Importance and to many concern'd in the measure, to be guided by the Council of any one Man.

What I now offer to you are only such Sentiments as I would give to a Friend, without expecting him to be in any degree guided by it. The Papers you propose laying before the different Governments, I cannot but think a little premature, and will serve no other purpose, than to sett them upon Inquirys, like Men dispirited, after the Efforts they have made, Inquirys that can tend to nothing, but create uneasiness with each other and I doubt end in this.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

As Mr. Wraxall informs me, the Council of Warr are not acquainted with your design in sending him to the different Governments, when the Gentlemen in the Superior Command of the Forces belonging to these Provinces, come to hear, you have transmitted such Accounts, which they doubtless will from their Friends, you may depend they will draw this conclusion, that you the General and Commander in Chief had taken measures to throw Cold Water on an Expedition, that they was desirous of Prosecuting with Vigour. I would therefore recommend your writeing Letters to the Governours, if you think any such measure necessary, and therein give them a short state of your present Situation, and acquaint them that you are preparing every thing proper for carrying on the Expedition. And if after all your Efforts you find you cannot proceed, by the Season being to farr advanced, for want of Provisions, or from any other unforeseen Accidents. it will then be time enough to inform the Governments, and proper for you to have the Concurrence of the Council of Warr (who I observe in your Councils only give general Answers to general Questions, or Propositions) for your future proceedings.

I would also recommend to you in the meantime, to send strong Scouting Parties on the Lake, to drive the Enemy from any Lodgments they may have on any of the Islands where they resort, I suppose only to observe your motions, this will have the appearance of doing something, and indeed may have very usefull Consequences, by keeping your Men in Action, and may put a Prisoner into your hands, from whom you may get a more perfect intelligence of the Enemys motions.

I observe by the Papers the flat bottomed Boats for Transporting the Cannon, are very backward, it may, and indeed is very necessary for you to be particularly carefull that this matter with every other that depends wholly on you as the Cheif in Command be carried into Execution with all possible dispatch, that it may hereafter appear to the World, that the Expedition to Tionderogo, or Crown Point, was not retarded, or postponed to next Year, for want of any steps that you could take, a Charge

some would gladly acquit themselves off, and Burthen others with. As I hope by this time some Indians may have joined you, they will be of great use to you as Scouting Partys. The Recorder is not yet returned, that I cannot tell you what Effect my Message has had upon the whole.

Mr. Wraxall tells me the Roads are so bad that it will be difficult for the large Cannon to be drawn to you, however if you Judge it necessary to have them, I would recommend your sending Orders for their being Transported to you, with direction to the Commanding Officers of the Connecticut Forces here, to Escort them this Department being wholly in you, and Moneys granted to you for this Service.

It gave me great satisfaction to hear by Mr. Wraxall your Council of Warr have come into the building the Fort plan'd by Mr. Eyre, instead of finishing the Picketted one, let me recommend it to you to dispatch the Completion of it, for I must say, it would have given me great concern, to have had that advanced Post abandoned and left to the Enemy to have Seized this Winter, their Vigilance certainly would not have overlook'd it.

I must also desire you will give the necessary Orders for the Completion of Fort Edward, that it may be, together with the Fort building on the Lake, fitt to receive proper Garrisons for their security this Winter.

As I do most heartily wish you all Success, and every thing that may add to your own wishes, and contribute to Your Honour, it is from this Motive I have thus freely laid before you my Sentiments, not as His Majestys Governor of this Province but one who is ready to serve you.

The small Cannon You have wrote to me for, I should hope may more or less be intended for Fort Edward, I find there are but few here fitt for Service, and if to be destined as above I should be glad to have the earliest advice that they may be carried there I am Sir.

Your most obed: humble Serv^t:

CHAS. HARDY

GENERAL JOHNSON

FROM JACOB OGDEN

A. L. S.¹

Jamaica, L. Island October 5. 1755.

DEAR SIR

I doubt not but that you have heard of our County's Sending your Army a Thousand Sheep; which I hope you will receive safe. As a Repetition of the Efforts of the benevolent Disposition of the People of this County, may be wanted, either in the same Commodities or Cattle, it may be proper to acknowledge the favour either by private Letter, or to mention it when anything of Moment is to be publicly communicated. A Line or two in this Manner would not only encourage our People to farther Good Works, but Spirit up others.

We have your Army very much at heart here, praying that the Ultimate Ends, of your tedious Campaign, may be fully answered, before you are obliged to retire to Winter Quarters.

Please to give my hearty Regards to Major General Lyman, whose Pupil for near 2 years, I had the Honour to be. With due Regard from Sir

your assured Friend & very humble Serv't

JACOB OGDEN

When anything remarkable occurs, a Line from you would be very acceptable.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

WILLIAM SHIRLEY TO SIR THOMAS ROBINSON

L. S.¹*Camp at Oswego October 5th. 1755*

SIR,

Inclos'd is a Copy, N^o 1, of a Letter dated 9th. of Sept^r: from Major General Johnson² to me, giving a particular Account of two Actions between him & the French at & near the Camp at Lake George, late Lake Sacrament, in his way to Crown point; a Copy, N^o 2, of a Letter from Captain Eyre, Engineer in that Expedition to me upon the same Subject, dated Sep^r: 10th. from the Camp at Lake George; a Copy, N^o 3, of a Letter dated Sep^r: 19th from me to General Johnson in Answer to his of the 9th of Sept^r:; a Copy N^o 4, of another Letter from me to General Johnson dated Sep^r: 24th. in Answer to Captain Eyre's; Extract, N^o 5, of a Letter from Captain Rutherford to me dated Sep^r: 22^d. giving a succinct, and I believe, exact Account of the two beforemention'd Actions, a Copy, N^o. 6, of a List of the forces, w^{ch}. the French General is suppos'd by General Johnson to have brought with him from Canada to Crown point & Tinonderoge, found among his Papers, & thought to be wrote in his own hand.

Since those two Actions General Johnson hath reciev'd very great Reinforcements from New England, particularly from my own Government of the Massachusetts Bay, & the Colony of Connecticut, the former of which hath in the whole voted 4300 for that Expedition, & Mr. Johnson must, according to Accounts transmitted to me from New England have had in the whole 8000 Men at least: What will be the Issue of that Expedition this Year, I don't certainly know yet, but have Reason to think it will be a dissatisfactory one to all the Colonies of New England, as well as to myself.

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.46., London, England.

² See Johnson to the Governors of Colonies, September 9, 10, 1755, *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:691-95.

I would for the present, Sir, beg leave to refer You to the inclos'd Copies N^o 3 & 4 of my Letters to General Johnson for my Sentiments of his Conduct, & Directions to him upon these Events, so far as it was proper for me to send them to him at the Distance, I am from him.

I have the Honour to be with the highest Respect

Sir,

Your most Humble and most
Obedient Servant,

W SHIRLEY,

Right Hon^{ble}: SIR THOMAS ROBINSON
Knight of the Bath &c.

INDORSED: Camp at Oswego Oct^r: 5th:
1755.
Maj^r. Gen^l. Shirley
R Dec^r. 18th

FROM SPENCER PHIPS

*Df.*¹

Boston 6 Oct^r. 1755

SIR

I wrote you the 26 Ult^o. in answer to your fav^r of the 17th. by Major Hoar, & by him sent you the Report of a Committee which was accepted by both Houses, and may serve for your Governm^t in the matters therein refer'd to.

The Secretary of the Province has since rec^d. a Letter from his Excell^y. Gov^r. Shirley wherein he desired that I would recommend to the Assembly the sending Comis^{rs}. to meet Comis^{rs}. from the other Governments to consult upon a plan of Operation for the ensuing Year. I accordingly sent a Message to the two Houses then sitting wherein I recommended this Affair to them as you will see by the copy of said Message which comes inclosed herewith: I likewise send you the Answer of the two Houses

¹ In Massachusetts Archives.

respectively, by which it appears that they were in no kind of disposition to hearken to such a proposal. The Government have exerted themselves this year as far as could reasonably be expected from them, hoping that by the help of this last Augmentation of 2000 Men together with the Reinforcements from the other Governments you would be able to carry the Point this Fall, and I very much fear if it be not now pushed to the utmost, they will be discouraged from attempting it another year for altho' this Government have made provision for borrowing money to supply the Treasury, yet it is found very difficult to obtain the Money that is wanted. The Inhabitants of this Province are generally willing to take the Treasurers Notes carrying Interest at the rate of 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent $\frac{1}{2}$ Annum, for such Supplies as we can furnish among Ourselves, but the great demands for Provisions which must be purchased in the other Governm^{ts} & for Waggon^s to transport them to the Army puts the Committee of War to great difficulties in raising Money for these Services so that if the Government were willing to go into the Expense of another Campaign, yet it would be almost impracticable to raise the Money to carry it on.

I the rather think myself obliged to give you this notice because of the prevailing opinion in some of the Southern Governm^{ts}. of the necessity of another Campaign in order to execute the Plan you are upon. This Governm^t. will probably be calld upon to exert itself to the Eastw^d another year & it is very doubtful whether they will ever come into the Measures that have been proposed to them, I must therefore press it upon You to exert yourself to the utmost of your power with these fresh reinforcements to bring the Affair to an Issue this Fall. The Committee of War inform me that they have dispatchd a sufficient quantity of Provisions & of warm cloathing for the Soldiers, and I hope nothing will be wanting for their Encouragement.

INDORSED: October 6, 1755 Letter
 from L^t. Gov^r. Phips to Maj^r.
 General Johnson.
 Enter'd in L^r book B page 15.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹*Camp at Lake George**7 October 1755.*

SIR

I have ordered a party of 50 Men to repair some bad places & to mend some Bridges in the Road between this Camp & Fort Edward. I have also sent orders to Col. Ruggles to detach another party from Fort Edward to do the same from that Fort to y^e East side of y^e River at Saraghtoga. I take the Liberty to inclose your Excellency my orders w^h. I beg the fav^r. of you to send to the Commanding officer of the Connecticut reinforcements at Albany to send 200 Men to mend the road repair Bridges &c. from Albany to the West side of the River at Saraghtoga. They will want some person who knows the Road to assist them. A proper Number of Hatchets, spades & shovels will be wanted, send them I cannot, & how to obtain them at Albany without y^r. Excell^{ys}. interposition I know not. there are none in the publick stores there.

Mr. Wraxall informs me that at the N. End of an Island opposite the House of Killiaan de Ridder,² if the Bank on the west side is dug away & a Waggon passage made the Ford of the River is not above Horse Knee high, whereas thro the usual Ford unless the Waggon are uncommonly high the water generally comes into the Waggon by w^h. means the Provisions have been often damaged.

As Mr. Van Schaik who is Commissary of the Artillery Waggon &c. is gone up to the Indians, I am under the necessity of applying to y^r. Excellency to order the 18 pounders to be dispatched hither as soon as the Road will be ready for them. The Express who brings this drove one of the 32 p^{ds}. up here & says

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² An inhabitant of Saratoga.

if y^r. Excellency will empower him he will procure Horses & drivers for these 18 p^{ds}. When they are ready. I inclose your Excellency an order to any of the officers of the Provincial Reinforcements to furnish a Guard for them of 150 or 200 Men. If Mr. Van Schaik should be returned Your Excell^y. will be pleased to give him the Orders concerning these Cannon.

Yesterday I sent down to Fort Edward to be dispatched on to Albany a French Deserter. he gave much more favourable Acc^{ts}. of the Enemy at Tionderogo than we lately received. I have this afternoon sent some fresh Spies thither & shall continue to do so till I receive Informations w^h. may so confirm each other as to be depended on. I have sent out a Party who are to post themselves in such a manner as I am in hopes to intercept some of the Enemys Scouts & procure us a Pris^r. two or three.

By the returns delivered in yesterday we have fit for Duty Serg^{ts}. corp^s. Drums & Private 2560 — Sick & wounded 540. The New Hampshire Reg^t. are gone home except 6 or 8.

The Fort I find goes on all things considered pretty well there are many difficulties to combat against, from that averseness to Labour, & the want of due subordination w^h. I very early found to be the capital sins of this army. I have made war against them by every method within the extent of my Power & abilities, but to me at least, they are invincible.

I do not expect this Fort with its Barracks, Magazine & store houses will be compleated in less than a Month from this date. We are in great want of Broad Axes the Mas^r. Carpenter reports that 60 Broad axes at least are wanting. I do by this Express write the Commissaries & direct them to purchase that Number & send them up with all possible Dispatch. Col. Ruggles writes me that his People are employed in Getting Timber &c. for Barracks & store houses at Fort Edward, but from my Information those things will not be finished in due time unless some Carpenters are sent up there. The w¹ of Carpenters here, the

¹ Omitted in the copy. The completed word would probably be "want."

many Difficulties met with in obtaining & keeping to work those who have been employed as been frequently represented to me by the Mas^r. Carpenter & I did & do every thing in my power to remove these obstructions. I desired Cap^t. Webster who is at the head of the Carpenter work & was Commissioned at Boston for that purpose to make me a Report of these Matters in writing, he has this day done it & I inclose y^r. Excellency a Copy of it.

I propose if I am able to attend, to call a Council of War in a day or two, if not, to direct General Lyman to preside & propose in writing the Subject or Subjects I would offer to their consideration.

Col. Cockcroft writes y^r. Excellency with regard to the vacancies in his Reg^t. The inclosed Letter I received from poor Cap^t. McGuines the day of his death. I think it my Duty to the memory of that Gallant Man to let you see it.

I have 7 or 8 Indians here & expect some more today. I am most respectfully Sir your Excell^{ys}. &c

To His Excellency

S^R. CHARLES HARDY

Gov^r. &c of New York.

Without delaying the Fort, a suff^t. Number of Carpenters cannot be got here to go upon the flat bottom Boats. This matter I shall lay before y^e Council.

TO JOHN TAPLIN ET AL

Orders from Wraxall to Captain John Taplin, of Bagley's regiment, for repairing roads; to Captain Robert Rogers, for scouting toward Carrying Place and Ticonderoga; from Johnson to commissaries for broadaxes; from Wraxall to commanders of Connecticut reinforcements to repair road from Albany to Saratoga; and Wraxall to Colonel Ruggles to repair road from Fort Edward to Saratoga, with directions on leaves of absence and pretended discharges, following the above in the Johnson Calendar were destroyed by fire. All were of the 7th of October. See Calendar, p. 55.

FROM STEPHEN WEBSTER

A. L. S.¹*Camp Lake George Oct^{br}. 7th. 1755*

HONORED SIR

I take leave with Submission to acquaint your Honour how I have proceeded as to y^r Comands relating to y^e Carpenters Work from the 6th. Sept^r to this Date. Your Honour was pleased to give it in y^e General Orders of that day, that I should be supply'd with as many Carpenters out of the Army as I should have Occasion for, in order to build a Number of Flat Bottom'd Boats to transport the Cannon, Warlike Stores &c. In Compliance, I did all possible I could to Engage a Number of Carpenters for the above s'd Work, I obtain'd to the No: of abt. 50 & began the Work, the 7th. Inst. we were alarm'd & the 8th. were attacked by the Enemy, 6 of the Carpenters were kill'd & Several wounded, the rest so fatigued as not to be fit for Work, & we having No Breast Work Nor Magazine No Work could be done to the Boats for 9 or 10 days after y^e. Engagem^t., then the Orders were issued for me to be supply'd wth. Carpenters to proceed in the Work, I Raised all I could w^{ch} was Some days 20, 15 or thereabouts, when I urg'd them to work they told me they were here as Soldiers & not Carpenters, & without better Encouragement they would not work as Carpenters. I have One Boat fit for 2 partly Caulked, one more abt. half built, which was all I could do with the Hands I could raise. Since w^{ch} on the 29th. y^r. Honour was pleas'd to issue Orders for building the New Fort, w^{ch} necessitated omitting the Boats, because there was not Carpenters enough for both Works, & Moreover we have not broad Axes enough for the required Dispatch, there being about 30, whereas there will be Occasion for 60 more

¹ Original destroyed by fire. There is a copy in Massachusetts Archives.

all this is humbly Submitted to your Honour being as near as I can represent the True State of the Case.

From y^r. Honour's Most humble & Most Obedient Servant

STEPHEN WEBSTER

Cap^t of y^e Carpenters¹

To the Hon^{ble} WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r. General of the Army
encamp'd at Lake George.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A letter of October 7th, from Goldsbrow Banyar to Johnson, following the above in the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed by fire. It dealt with a French deserter from Ticonderoga, impeachment of Rogers's reports, spirit of officers and men and the advantage of an advance on Ticonderoga. See Calendar, p. 55.

PETER WRAXALL TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df. S.*²

Camp at Lake George 8 Octo^r. 1755.

SIR

The Night I left this place the General was seized with an Inflammation in the side of his Head & throat, the pain afterwards pitched in his Ear & gave him inexpressible Torment. he has been bled, blistered & purged. he has had very little Sleep & taken as little Nourishment. he is extreemly weak & continues in much pain tho not so severe as it was. his situation renders him incapable of answering your Excellencys friendly & obliging Letter w^{ch} I brought him. he has devolved that honour upon me. Permit me my good Sir, in the first place to return your Excellency my very grateful acknowledgments for that Generous Candor that condescending Friendliness & that truly polite Reception which you were pleased to honour me with in my private Capacity; If I know my own Heart, it is naturally tenacious & grateful upon receiving Testimonies of this kind, and the most respectfully disposed towards you in your public

¹ See Minutes of Council of War, 1755, Oct. 9.

² Original destroyed by fire.

Capacity yet my sensibilities lead me disinterestedly to esteem you & to wish for yours, as Sir Charles Hardy divested of every Power but that amiable one of engaging the Heart;

My worthy & excellent Friend Gen^l. Johnson, has the same impressions from your Letter to him, as I have from your Behaviour to me. Allow me who have had the Opportunity of an undeserved Intimacy with him to say he is a Character w^{ch} every good Man will esteem. In his present public Station, he has no motives of Action but what appear to him for the public good. in his political Relation to this Province, he has no Ambition but as prove his Loyalty & Duty to his King & Country his Inclinations & his Constitution, both detirmine for the future to be as much the private Man as possible. he has no selfish Ends to serve, he will enter into none of the narrow Circles of Party, & disdains the unpatriot machinations of Faction.

Gratitude & respect for your Excellency pressed upon me to speak of myself. And the same Feelings towards General Johnson dictated what I have said with regard to him. If I have gone out of my way I hope my Intentions will plead my Appology.

The General approves of my return upon y^r. Excellencys judicious Sense of the Matter. He is strengthening his Measures and proposes to regulate his future proceedings upon the Plan w^{ch} you have intimated to him. Whatever may be the event of this Campaign or how much soever it may disappoint the Sanguine Expectations of the sev^l. Gov^{ts}. concerned, the General will rest his character upon a just & fair Enquiry, as to popular Breath, its infection is unavoidable, but to a Wise Man, conscious Rectitude will prevent the Disease from being Mortal.

By the General's public Letter to your Excell^y you will see that your private hints have not been lost upon him.

As to the small Cannon, at the next Council of War, he proposes to mention your Excellencys Opinion as well as that of the Gentlemen of the Council, that if Granted they ought to be for the Defence of Fort Edward, and that this Opinion was

given to me. for of yr. private Letter the General will take no public Notice.

The General desires you will accept of every good wish his Heart is capable of offering, I beseech yr. Excellency will do me the same honour & permit me to assure you that I am

Sir Yr.

Will you please to present my Salutations to Mr. Barrons.

From PETER WRAXALL

FROM PHILIP LORD ET AL

A report of scouting by Philip Lord follows the preceding letter in the Johnson Calendar. (See p. 55.) It is printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:262; Q, 4:170. It is followed in the Calendar by a letter of October 9th to Johnson from John Pownall in London (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:700-2; Q, 2:408-9), and a request from Chaplain Solomon Page, of October 9th to Johnson for a furlough to visit sick family. These papers were destroyed by fire. Pownall's letter is also printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1017-18.

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1016, under date of October 8th, is a letter to the lords of trade from Sir Charles Hardy, in Albany, mentioning the action of September 8th.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

[Albany] October 9: 1755.

DEAR SIR

It gave me great Satisfaction to hear by Col. Blanchard, that your Fever had left you or was considerably abated. May you soon find yourself well and in a Condition to proceed: Col Dunbar's horses left Philadelphia last Wednesday week the 1st Instant. If they come soon & the Colonel goes up Sr. Charles will take that Opportunity I believe to pay you a Visit, which I imagine may be of singular use, Can you contrive any Method to furnish the Men with covering for their Horses? If nothing further is done, I fear the Expence the Provinces have been

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

lately put to will dispirit them, & be of infinite disadvantage to the Measures of the next year. You are sensible your own Reputation is highly interested. Gen. Shirley has given away Kings Company to his own Cap^t. Liutenant, which S^r. Charles thinks is interfering in his department, and a Step I believe he imagines that Braddock would not have taken. he's (Shirley) much embittered ag^t. you: He complains that you did not send him an Account as early as any one of the Battle. His Wings will soon be clipt. I believe, and if you dont give him a lift out of the Stirrup as far as in your Power I shall wonder at it. Among that¹ Boston Colonels is one Col. Gridley a gentleman who I find has made Gunnery and the Art of Bombarding his Study. He was of great Service in this way at the Siege of Louisburgh, will be now of great Ease to my Friend Captain Eyre, if a good Understanding is kept up between them, which you'l endeavour to create & preserve. He is, I take him to be, one of those Men who make the fewest Difficulties, which is by a Resolution to surmount them. About 3000 of your pick'd Men, assisted with 600 Regulars & the Company of the Train besides your own Train will do the Business if cold weather does not prevent them. The French must I think retire very soon & leave only a Strong Garison & I cant say I expect Winter in good Earnest till Christmas, a cold day or two or a little Ice does not make Winter.

Capt Bayard will deliver you this whom I am desired by the Commissioner to mention to you as a brave deserving man. The Gov^r. has given him a Commission as Captain in the Train. I am D^r. Sir yours with great truth

GW BANYAR

Lord Hansen at N Y is dead. no material News on Sunday last. Mr. Morris² & his Assembly at Varriance & the Virgs. proposing to do something on that side.

¹ "That" in the copy; "the" perhaps intended.

² Robert Hunter Morris, lieutenant governor of Pennsylvania.

TO PHINEAS LYMAN

*Df. S.*¹

Camp at Lake George 9 October 1755

Thursday Morning.

SIR

As my present Illness renders me incapable of holding a Council of War in person, I have ordered one to consist of all the Field Officers in Camp with Cap^t. Eyre and the Adjutant General, and I desire you will lay before them the following Papers, which I have directed my Secretary to attend with.

1. Sr. Charles Hardy Govern^r. of New Yorks Letter to me bearing date the 2^d. Inst. with a Report from the Gentlemen of His Majesties Council with him at Albany.

2. Cap^{tn}. Websters Report to me conserning the Flatt Bottom'd Boats.

3. Major General Shirleys Letter to me bearing date the 25. Ul^{to}.

4. The last Returns of Men fit for Duty, Sick and Wounded in this Camp — also all the Returns which have been given in from the Commissaries since my Order of the 7. Instant.

Upon these Papers I desire you will Acquaint the Council of War, that as I have been informed the Roads and Bridges between this Camp and Albany are in great want of Repair, I yesterday ordered a Party of 50 Men to mend the Road &c. from hence to Fort Edward. I also ordered Col. Ruggles to detach from said Fort 50 Men to repair the Road and Bridges from thence to the East Side of the River at Saraghtoga. I have also ordered a Detachment of 200 Men of the Connecticut Reinforcements at Albany to mend the Road from that City to the West side of the River at Saraghtoga. I have applied to Sr. Charles Hardy to direct the 4 Eighteen pounders to be sent from Albany hither. I have also ordered the Commissaries of the severall Governments at Albany to send hither with all possible

¹ Original destroyed by fire. There is a copy in Massachusetts Archives.

Dispatch 60 Broad Axes in Consequence of Cap^t. Websters Report. These previous Measures I thought necessary to take, and I desire to know whether the Council of War approves of them and would advise any further ones.

I desire their opinion upon the following Points.

1. Whether in the present state of this Army, its provisions Military Stores, number of Battoes now here, and the Intelligence gained of the posture of the Enemy, it be adviseable in our present Scituation to undertake an immediate Attempt upon Ticonderogo or on any Passes or posts between this Camp and that important Pass.

If the Council of War are of opinion it is, I desire they will advise me, what number of men, what Quantity of Provisions, and what Artillery I shall order upon this Undertaking.

If the Council of War are of opinion that an immediate March and Embarkation towards Crown Point is not adviseable, I desire they will give me their reasons against it.

2. Whether the Flatt bottomed Boats now unfinished shall be compleated without delay and how many more I shall order to be Built, and if Tools and Workmen cannot otherwise be obtained, whether they shall be taken from the Fort now Building here, where there is a Scarcity of both, so that not one half of the Works can be carried on together.
3. Whether I shall order all the Waggon as fast as they bring Provisions and Stores up hither to stop at Fort Edward and bring up the Battoes and other stores there, & also send directions down to Albany to bring up the Shells which lay at the Flatts and the Shot which remain at the half Moon.

My Secretary brings you also to lay before the Council of War, the Report of a Committee of the Council & of Representatives of Massachusetts Bay upon two Letters of mine to Gov^r. Phipps. Likewise a Letter from the Agents of New York employed to forward the Generous Presents

from some Gentlemen of that City, and the Present of 1000 Sheep and some Cheese from the Inhabitants of Queens County on Long Island, upon which I would desire this Council of War to give me their Opinion of Conveying the Gratefull Acknowledgments of this Army for these Seasonable Acts of Beneficence.

I have also directed Cap^t. Wraxall my Aid de Camp to give You, to lay before this Council of War a Letter directed to him from Col. Ruggles relating to his Application to me for leave to go to Boston, I desire they will take the same into Consideration and give me their Opinion thereon.

I am Sir

Your most hum Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

To MAJOR GENERAL LYMAN.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

*D. S.*¹

Camp at Lake George p. M. Thursday 9 Oct. 1755

At a Council of War summoned by General Johnson & held in Major General Lymans Tent.

Pres^t. Major General Lyman Pres^t.

all the Feild officers in Camp

Capt Eyre chief Engineer &c.

Cap^t. Glazier Adjutant Gen^l.

Peter Wraxall Sect^{ry}.

General Lyman directed the Secretary to read to this Council of War the annexed Letter to him from General Johnson proposing the Subjects referred to the Consideration of this Council of War.

¹ Original destroyed by fire. Copy in Massachusetts Archives.

The Council of War approve the previous Measures w^{ch} the General has taken as mentioned in his s^d. Letter & desire he would in Case good Broad axes cannot be procured in Albany send to the Commissaries for 100 wt of the best Heart & Club Steel and in case the Axes can be procured to send them only half a hundred Weight & a hogshead of Sea Coal.

Lieu^t. Col. Whitcomb desired leave to withdraw finding himself out of Order. Col. Chauncey & Col. Dyer came to the Council of War.

As to the First point on w^{ch} the General desires the Opinion of this Council of War

They are Unanimously of Opinion that in the present Circumstances of this Army an immediate attempt upon Tionderogo or any passes or Posts between this Camp & that important Pass, is not adviseable. And for these Reasons. The Want of a sufficient Number of Men & a suff^t. Quantity of Provisions as to the Second Point it is the Unanimous Opinion of this Council of War that no Tools or Workmen shall be employed on the Flat Bottomed Boats so as to hinder the compleating the Fort now building here.

As to the third point it is the Unanimous Opinion of this Council of War that it is necessary for the Subsistence of this Army that all the Waggons which can be obtained be kept employed in bringing Provisions & other necessary Stores for the Troops engaged in this Expedition.

With regard to the Report of the Committee of Massachusetts Bay the Council desire the Gen^l will let the Commanding officer of each Reg^t have a Copy of that part of it w^{ch} declares the good opinion of that Government of the behaviour of the Army in the late Engagement in order to publish it to their several Reg^{ts}. and all the Members of this Council of War desire the General in his next Letter to Gov^r. Phipps to express their Gratitude for the obliging Notice w^{ch} the Gov^t. of Massachusetts Bay have taken of them & the Troops here.

With regard to the Generous Pres^t. from the Inhabitants of



SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON
(1756)

the City of New York & of Queens County of Long Island, the General is desired to write a Letter to Messrs. Robinson & Wallace & to Messrs. Jones & Connel with the grateful acknowledgments of the officers in behalf of this Army for their Seasonable Generosity.

The Council of War are of opinion that the General give Col. Ruggles leave to go to Boston

P LYMAN

PETER WRAXALL

Sec^{ry}.

TO MOSES EMERSON ET AL

Following the preceding in the Johnson Calendar, (See p. 56) are an order of October 10th to Moses Emerson and other commissaries for axes; proceedings of the same date in the trial by court martial of William Caleb and Thomas Searjants, acquitting the former and finding the latter not deserving of punishment; an undated memorandum of Lieutenant Sawyer's desertion; and a letter of the 10th from Johnson to Benning Wentworth, mentioning illness, the return of Wraxall and advices to be sent to Governor Phips. All were destroyed by fire.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 10 October 1755

SIR

My last to your Excellency bore date the 7 Inst. As I still continue mostly confined to my bed, wholly to my Tent & my pain very little decreased, I wrote a Letter to General Lyman that I had ordered a Council of War & desired he would lay the papers & points therein mentioned before them for their opinion, Copy of w^{ch}. Letter & the Minutes of Council thereon I inclose your Excellency. It was judged by the Council of War that with the Reinforcements arrived since the last returns were made our fit for Duty were ab^t. 3000. That all the Provisions meat excepted upon the Commiss^{rs}. last returns the 7. & 9. Inst. then

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

in Camp were not suff^t. for more than 10 or 12 days, that tho the French Deserters Intelligence seemingly differed with Cap^t Rodgers's yet as he left Tionderogo 3 or 4 days after Rodgers & the latter was ready to swear to the truth of what he had given in writing, they were of opinion both Acc^{ts}. were reconcilable to Truth; the said Deserter said the Enemys force amounted to 6000. when assembled at Crown Point before part of them advanced to Tionderogo between w^{ch} places there is but 15 Miles distance. As y^r. Excellency has doubtless examined this Deserter more accurately perhaps than was done here you will be able to make a Judgment hereon. I beg y^r. Excellency will transmit his Examination to Gov^r. Phipps at Boston & send me one. General Lyman examined him here, my illness preventing me, & he kept no Minutes.

Mr. Wraxall informed me Gen^l. Shirley had ordered him up to Oswego, & that y^r. Excellency had taken that matter under your Management, w^{ch} I am extreamly glad of & very much obliged to you for. I soon found myself distressed by his absence. he has always been a most necessary & useful person to me, & he will remain so as long as my Military connexions last. The loss of him would not only be a private one to me, but I think an essential one to the public relative to this Expedition. I wrote Mr. Shirley before he set out for Oswego that Mr. Wraxall was my Secretary & aid de Camp. The affairs w^{ch} have passed thro him & the Papers which are in his hands & under his Mannagment make it absolutely necessary that he should not be taken from me to a situation w^{ch}. must rob me of that assistance without which I cannot give an Account of my Conduct to the Gov^{ts}. concerned, w^{ch} they will reasonably expect & may probably demand, and I cannot but think Gov^r. Shirleys abrupt & peremptory orders to him, an unkind intention towards me. It is not meerly upon my private but on the public Interest that I must thank y^r. Excellency for y^r. Interposition and claim the continuance of it in regard to this Gentleman, who has no pay who reaps no Perquisites for all his Labours & the Dangers to w^{ch} he has exposed himself in this Service.

My Pain continues & I think increases. May Your Excellency be a stranger to pain & intimate with every real Pleasure. I am with great Esteem Sir

Your Excellencys most obed^t. & obliged Serv^t.

INDORSED: General's Letter to Gov^r. Hardy 10 Oct^r. 1755.

TO SPENCER PHIPS

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 10 Octo^r. 1755

SIR

By Major House² I was favoured with your Honours Letter bearing date 26 Ult^o.

As to the Unfortunate Vacancies in the Three Regiments from your Gov^t. what I did therein was conformable to the Opinion of the Council of War & from the necessity there was of supplying those Vacancies till I was properly informed. I neither had in this Case nor have I ever had in any other the least partial Bias more in favour of one officer than another, further than that Preference w^{ch} the good of the Service & manifest Personal Merit led me to.

Tho I apprehended the Character conferred upon me, gives me the right of some Judgment & entitles me to some Influence in these affairs, yet I acquiesce³ in the Detirmination w^{ch} your Honour with the Concurrence of His Majestys Council have made in this Matter.

I am so unfortunate as to differ in Opinion with Your Honour concerning that peculiar circumstance w^{ch} had such great Weight with you. Sure I am, that the popular channel thro w^{ch} this

¹ Original destroyed by fire. There is a copy in the Public Record Office, C. O. 5.46., London, England, that was inclosed in a letter from Johnson to Sir Thomas Robinson, January 17, 1756. Also in Massachusetts Archives.

² "House" in the copy; should be Hoare.

³ Word omitted in the copy; supplied from the London transcript.

Army in general roll^d its officers, was a Capital defect in its Original Construction & w^{ch} has given me inexpressable Vexation & almost constant Obstructions in carrying that little command¹ w^{ch}. I have been able to do. A Popular choice in Military Life & that by new Levies is founded in Ignorance & will be guided by Caprice, such officers will in all probability be like the heads of a Mob, who must support their preheminance by unworthy Condesensions, & Indulgences subversive of order & of the very Existance of an Army. After assuring you Sir that there are several officers in this Army worthy of the Rank they bear, I will also assure you there are very many under the Rank of Field officers who are in no respect but by their Commiss^{ns}. superior to any of the Men they command, nay that are utterly incapable of Acting in the posts w^{ch} have fallen to their Lot. For my own Share I was not bred to Military Life, nor do I claim the knowledge of an experienced officer. I have held myself quite indiff^t to the Ceremonials, & only been attentive to essential parts of Discipline. All my Orders if inspected will I believe be found, both easy to be understood & as easily obeyed, yet they have in very few Instances been duly complied with, & many daily & notoriously Violated. If I am asked why I did not enforce my Authority supposing I had w^{ch}. I think I had not the requisite powers to do it. I answer the Evil was too general to admit of a Remedy, it was radical in the Constitution & could not be conquered but by a Dissolution. General Court Martials & Regimental Ones have been held but with a Success suitable to the Fabric which occasioned them.

I ask your pardon for Expatiating so much on this Subject, I have felt it & I feel it, & I wish the Gov^{ts} concerned may not feel it also. I will conclude by observing to your Honour, that however popular Gov^t. may be by some Esteemed in Civil Life, in Military Life it is incompatible with any rational Expectations of Honour & Success.

My Secretary has filled up y^r. Commissions for Colonels to Messrs. Bagly & Pomroy of Lieut. Colonel to Maj^t. Nichols,

¹ See note 3, p. 163.

& I have desired Col. Bagly & Col. Pomroy to give in a List of the other Vacancies in their Reg^{ts}. & who are to succeed by their respective Senioritys when they shall be also filled up upon your prescribed Plan. I shall send Col. Ruggles such a Number of Blank Commissions as he has Vacancies in his Reg^t.

If there are any Fees due upon these Commissions they are due to your Secretary mine take none of any kind.

The General Letter which I sent to your Honour was opened (upon the presumption of the writing on the back of it) by Mr. Stevenson at Albany & a Copy sent to Gen^l. Shirley, the Minutes of Council were omitted to be inclosed & Mr. Stevenson says he sent them afterwards under Cover to you. this affair was utterly without my Concurrence & very contrary to my Expectations.

Whatever Papers I have sent to the Gov^t. of New York, I did it with no other¹ View, than as a Method of the most eligible Conveniency to get them transmitted your way. From selfish or Ambitious Views, I make my Court to no Gov^t. having no political Schemes to carry, & resting every future Plan of my Life on a private Bottom. A Lesson w^{ch} mortifying Experience has taught me.

As to the French General, his Aid de Camp & the French Prisoners, I thought the Nearest Capital the most prudent to send 'em. As to the punctilio so strenuously urged by your Committee it never entered into my head. The French General poor Man & several of the Pris^{rs}. were not in a Condition to be consigned² by any other chanel than I sent them. They are now out of mine & under the Jurisdiction of the Gov^r. of New York, who if he could with a wish convey them to you would I fancy most readily do it.

A few Days ago I sent a Deserter from the French Camp at Tionderogo, the only one we have had from them, down to Albany. he said, the Army at Crown Point before their March

¹ "Another" in the copy; "no other" in the London transcript.

² The transcript in the Public Record Office has "conveyed."

to Tionderogo consisted of about 6000 — That upon the return of the remainder of the Party w^{ch} attacked our Camp, the whole army moved to Crown Point except abt. 400 left at Tionderogo & 70 as an advanced Party for Scouting at the Narrows from whence he made his escape he sayd they were building a Work at Tionderogo w^{ch} was then 5 Logs high. he said there is a Work carrying on upon the Rocky Eminence near Crown Point.

You will observe this Acc^t. differs from Cap^t. Rodgers's Intelligence concerning Tionderogo w^{ch} I transmit you herewith, but as Cap^t. Rodgers was there on Sunday the 28 Inst this Deserter left it the Thursday before, & supposing the latters Acc^t. true the former may be so also as Tionderogo is but 15 miles from Crown Point, however I have sent out other Spies who I expect will clear up this seeming opposition. If they return before I send off this Letter you shall have their Intelligence.

I send your hon^r also herewith Cap^t. Rogers's Intelligence from Crown Point.

By the last Returns made me the 7 Inst the Men fit for Duty in this Camp were 2560. Sick & Wounded 540 in both Serg^{ts}. Corp^s. & Drums included. The Reinforcements arrived since will make up the fit for Duty abt. 3000 — By the Commissaries returns & a calculation made thereon last night at the Council of War we had not above 10 or 12 days Bread.

By a Violent Inflammation in my Head & Ear, I have been for some days past mostly confined to my Bed wholly to my Tent. I therefore summoned a Council of War to meet Yesterday afternoon & wrote a Letter to General Lyman to lay what I had to refer to them before the Council, a Copy of that Letter & the Minutes of Council thereon I inclose you herewith, also a Copy of Cap^t. Websters Report & General Shirleys Letter. The Gov^r. of New Yorks Letter & the Report of his Council are chiefly abt. the Fort erecting here & Cannon.

As by our Scouts have discovered partys of Observation from the Enemy who come in Cannoes upon this Lake I sent abt. 60 or 70 Men to lodge themselves upon an Island near to the Carry-

ing Place in order to lay in wait & intercept some of these Parties they are not yet returned. I keep constantly out 2 Parties on each side the Lake of 50 each who send out small Scouting Parties to discover any Motions of the Enemy so as to prevent a Surprize.¹

I have about 8 or 9 Indians here of the 6 Nations & expect some few more.

Col. Blanchard & his New Hampshire Regt. have left us, the Mens enlisting time being out & no advices from their Gov^r. concerning them. They are a loss to us as they did the chief part of the Scouting Duty are very ² extreamly well calculated for it.

There are arrived at this Camp about 500 of the Reinforcements from your Gov^t. Col. Willards Regt. included. I am

Most respectfully Sir Your Honours

Most Obed^t. hum Serv^t.

TO GOVERNOR PHIPPS.

TO DAVID JONES ET AL

The preceding letter was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 56, by a letter of October 10 to David Jones and Thomas Cornel from Johnson, acknowledging a present of cheese and sheep from Queens county (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:702-3; Q, 2:409-10). It was destroyed by fire.

TO ROBINSON AND WALLACE

*Df.*³

Camp at Lake George 10 Octo^r. 1755

GENTLEMEN

Your favour of the 16 past with Sundry presents from the Inhabitants of your City was forwarded to me from Albany by Ol deLancey Esq^r. a few days ago.

¹ In the copy the word is suspicion; corrected from London transcript.

² In copy "were"; "very" in London transcript.

³ Original destroyed by fire.

Yesterday I laid your Letter before a Council of War of all the Field officers in this Camp & I send you inclosed an Extract from the Minutes of the same in consequence thereof.

This Instance of publick Spirited Beneficence from Your City, has not only impressed Universal Gratitude upon the Hearts of this Army, but filled them with a just Sense of your Patriotism in this Generous Instance. I have ordered a Feild officer & a Surgeon from every Reg^t. in Camp to meet & make an equitable Division of what is arrived, in w^{ch}. the Troops at Fort Edward who were in the Actions of the 8 Sep^r. & the Sick of the reinforcements are to be included.

these presents are a relief to Distresses & a supply to wants w^{ch}. would otherwise have been without remedy in our Circumstances & Situation.

Neither myself nor any belonging to my personal Family either officers or Servants will Share any of these Presents, as I apprehend the rest of the army may stand more in need of these Seasonable refreshments.

I beg you Gentlemen in particular & all the other Contributors in general, will Accept of my grateful applause to that honour w^{ch} you have done yourselves, & for that well timed Relief w^{ch} you have given to the Troops under my Command.

I am

Gentlemen

Your most obliged & obed^t. Serv^t.

To MESSRS. ROBINSON & WALLACE Merch^{ts} at New York

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

Df.

Camp at Lake George 10 Octr. 1755

SIR

I wrote Your Excellency the 30 Inst. with sundry Papers designed to give you the best State in my power of the Troops & affairs under my Direction. Mr. Wraxall on his arrival at Albany

gave that packet to Mr. Stevenson to forward to Your Excellency. The night after his Departure I was seized with an Inflammation in my head w^{ch}. gave me inexpressible Torment, I have been bled, blistered & purged, w^{ch}. with want of Sleep & appetite confines me to the bed. My Pain is some what abated, but is still such as I can get but little Sleep. As my Instructions to Mr. Wraxall directed him to consult Sr. Charles Hardy upon his future proceedings, that Gentlemans advice & my illness occasioned his return hither in 5 days after his departure from hence, w^{ch} gave me great Satisfaction, as I found he was too necessary to me here to spare him on my designed Plan and some other Circumstances having intervened, has induced me not to transmit at least at present duplicates of those Papers w^{ch} I sent to yr. Excellency. One is, that I chuse first to hear from you upon them.

The 8 Inst I rec^d Your Excellencys several Letters bearing dates the 19, 24, 25 & 28. past.

As to my not sending Yr. Excell^y. an Acc^t. of the Actions of the 8 past at the same time I did it in a general Letter to the several Gov^{ts}. The Council of War gave their opinion that I should with all possible Dispatch send that Letter to Gov^r. Phipps. This I did, and the Person appointed to carry it not being one under my Command, was so impatient to be gone that he would scarce wait till that Letter was finished and the officers also urging me not to delay him. As there had been no time to look over the Papers of the French General & other Pris^{rs} so as for me to judge what might be necessary to send your Excellency, I was more easy on the head of delaying my Letter to you w^{ch}. I was determined to send by the first opportunity & did it accordingly.

I assure your Excellency that my not dispatching you a Lettr before or at the time I did the general one was owing to unavoidable Obstacles, & that I thought 2 or 3 days differ was not of material Consequence, this & not want of that attention w^{ch} is due to your Station & Situation, was what regulated my Conduct. Your Excellency will please to consider or be informed, that I have no writers but my Secr^y. Mr. Wraxall, & a Deputy Secr^y. & they have no pay or perquisites for what they do in this

way, & that no Establishment was made for me of this kind. Mr. Wraxall has been & is my only Aid de Camp. In this Situation I think my self excusable if I cannot be so punctual & diffusive in my advices as might otherwise have been expected from me. I hope your Excell^y. will accept this as an Appology for my not entering into a particular reply to your several Letters before me. Any Advice w^{ch}. it has been in my power to send you, w^{ch}. appears to me to have any connexion with or could have any probable Influence on that part of His Majestys Service w^{ch}. your Excellency has the personal Direction of, I have transmitted you with all the Dispatch w^{ch}. Circumstances would permit, and I am conscious of no wilful Neglect herein, whatever Insinuations may be made to the contrary.

Your Excellencys Letter of the 25 Sep^r. I laid last night before a Council of War. The Minutes of that Council I transmit you herewith.

By the last returns the 6 & 7. Inst the Number of Men fit for Duty at this Camp were 2560. Men Sick & Wounded 540. Serg^{ts}. Corp^s. & Drums included. The Reinforcements arrived since was calculated last night by the Council of War, to make the fit for Duty 3000 — the Bread then in Camp suff^t. for about 12 days. I have about 7 or 8 Indians with me & am advised more are coming. I expect they will be but few.

The time of Enlistment of the New Hampshire Reg^t. being expired & no Letters from their Gov^r. relative to them being come to Col. Blanchard, they are all marched home except ab^t. 4 or 5. who stay with Cap^t. Rogers, this is a great loss to us in all our Scouting Duty, as it was principally done by them, & tho I continue to send parties out, I am afraid the Duty will not be so effectually done.

A French Deserter the only one we have had, came some days ago to our Camp. I sent him down to Sir Charles Hardy, who I suppose if he gives any Intelligence w^{ch} may be useful to Your Excellency will transmit it you. He gave here a diff^t. Acct of the Enemy at Tionderoga from what Cap^t. Rodgers did. He was examined before Gen^l. Lyman but as he Deserted from

Tionderoga, 3 or 4 days after Capt. Rodgers was there, the officers present at his Examination & who were at the Council of War last night, think both Accounts are reconcilable. I have dispatched other Spies to Tionderogo, who may return before I can send off this Letter, if so you shall know the News I bring. I have also sent a party of 100 Men to an Island in the Lake to Intercept any of the Enemys small partys, who are frequently sent out to watch our Motions.

I do not recollect any thing further that I have to acquaint your Excellency with at present.

I hope the obstacles w^{ch} have inevitably hindered your Excellency from proceeding upon the Expedition under your command are as you hoped so far surmounted as to have enabled you to set sail nearly ab^t. the time you mention, & unfeignedly wish you may meet with the desired Success in an Undertaking of so much Importance to the Interest & welfare of His Majestys Dominions in N. America. I am with all due respect Sir

Y^r. Excellencys Most obedt hum Serv^t.

I have given orders & taken Measures for the Completion of Fort Edward.

INDORSED: Generals Letter to General Shirley 10 Octo^r. 1755.

TO THOMAS HUTCHINSON

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 11 October 1755.

SIR

Please to accept of my unfeigned thanks for your very obling'g & Esteemed favour of the 24 past by Major Hoare.²

The French Generals Order of Battle w^{ch} I directed Capt. Wraxall my Secr^y. & Aid de Camp to inclose to Gov^r. DeLancey, I expected would be immediately printed at New York for the Entertainment of the public. I was not aware that

¹Original destroyed by fire.

²"House" in the copy; should be Hoare.

it would give any Jealousy to y^r. Gov^t. & indeed it was not found among the Papers till my general Letter was closed, for we had not then had time to examine the papers w^{ch} were taken. both Mr. Wraxall & myself were very much vexed to see a Letter in the New York Paper published with his name to it. We have understood since, that Letter was a composition of parts of his & of another wrote from this Army. The Letter he wrote was a Scrawl hurried over, without the least apprehension it would ever be published, intended only as a point of respect to Mr. DeLancey then commander in chief of the Province to w^{ch}. Mr. Wraxall bears a Civil connexion as you know I also do something from one of us might reasonably have been expected. and this Method Circumstances pointed out.

As to the General Letter opened at Albany & the Minutes of Council omitted to be re inclosed. I have explained that Matter in my Letter to Gov^r. Phipps w^{ch} I doubt not will be communicated to you as also what I have said upon the other Papers sent to the Gov^r. of New York w^{ch} he says he sent copies of upon the receipt of them.

Tho I have always looked upon your Gov^t. as having the lead in this present Expedition, yet I apprehended the others were not to be totally neglected, & as no Establishment was made, to enable me to carry on the diffusive Correspondence w^{ch} seems to be expected from me, it has been & is impossible for me to fulfill those Expectations. All my writing Buisness Originates with Mr. Wraxall and I have but one Copier under him. Mr. Wraxall has also been my only Aid de Camp who writes & delivers out all my Military orders, Instructions &c. this detail of Duty even in a regular army of equal Numbers to this would be thought too much for one Person, & in this is extreamly fatiguing. he has also acted as Judge advocate & tho there has been but too much foundation to give him his hands full in this Department yet Prudence on the One hand, & the little advantage to the Service found upon Trial on the other, has relieved him from much Employ^t. in this office. These Posts Mr. Wraxall accepted without even the prospect of any pay from the public, declared

he would take none from me & has given up every Perquisite w^{ch} belongs to two of them. he has sustained them greatly to my Satisfaction, to the advantage of the Service & very honourably for himself.

I will appeal to you Sir whose Penetration I know to be equal to your Candor, whether that punctuality could be observed or whether it has been in my power to afford those gratifications which have I doubt not been expected from me.

Tho this Expedition was embraced with great Ardor & a very laudible Spirit appeared throughout most of the Colonies concerned Yet there were some Capital Errors in its construction & w^{ch}. I fear has in a great measure tended to disappoint the Sanguine Expectations of the Colonies. It would be too great a Tax upon your Patience & upon my time to descend to particulars.

Believe me my very good Sir, that I accept your friendly Intimations with a grateful heart & desire Consequences to myself from your Generous concern about me, and I shall profit by it. Whenever I consider the Great Expende of the Colonies, & that uncommon exertion of themselves w^{ch} has appeared in fav^r. of this Expedition I am apprehensive the Events of this Campaign will not be equal to their Hopes, & perhaps all that has been done will to the generality appear of little consequence & merit, because all was not done. I am conscious that I have acted up to the extent of my abilities & of my power, & I am prepared to prove it. the Station I am placed in is exposed to too much & to too little Fame, considered as the just result of Conduct. I prefer the inward conviction of my own rectitude to every precarious S¹ of applause.

Public affairs require my putting an End to this Letter, & leaves me only time to assure you that I am with great Esteem
Dear Sir

Your most obliged hum Serv^t.

I am very much out of order with a violent Inflammation in the side of my head, w^{ch} confines me mostly to my bed.

To the Hon^{ble} THO^s. HUTCHINSON Es^q.

¹ Word apparently illegible. Perhaps "Salvo."

FROM CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

A report of camp guards, dated October 11th, from Christopher Champlin, following the preceding in the Johnson Calendar, p. 57, was destroyed by fire.

TO PHINEAS LYMAN

Df. S.¹

Camp at Lake George
11 October 1755

SIR

Application having been made to me by Your Self in conjunction with several Feild Officers in this Camp, to order a Council of War to take into consideration & give their Opinion on the present state of this Army & all Circumstances relating thereto, and whether it is not best Immediately to inform the Governments concerned in the Expedition, thereof, & desire their Orders as to future Proceedings.

And to consider whether it is not best to dismiss a Number of Invalids from the Service.

As my illness disables me from being hold^g. a Council of War in Person, I desire you will preside at this which I have summoned in [*consequence of the above application, & lay before the Members thereof the foregoing Articles contained in the said Application made to me, to wit*²] conformity to the above Application and make me a Report of their Opinions on the above Subjects in writing

- [1. *To take into Consideration the present state of this Army & all Circumstances relating thereto*
2. *Whether it is not best immediately to inform the Governments concerned in this Expedition thereof, and desire their Orders as to future Proceedings.*

¹ Original manuscript in New York Public Library; in Wraxall's handwriting.

² Words in italics and inclosed in brackets are erased in original manuscript.

3. *To consider whether it is not best to dismiss a number of Invalids from the Service.*^{1]}

I am Sir

Your most hum serv^t.

To MAJOR GENERAL LYMAN

W^m. JOHNSON

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.²

Camp at Lake George 11th. Oct^r. 1755

HON^d. SIR.

We would humbly propose to your Honour to call a Council of War to consider of the present state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto, and whether it is not best immediately to inform the Governments concerned in the Expedition thereof and desire their Orders as to future proceedings, and to consider whether it is not best to dismiss a number of Invalids from the service and am

Your Honours

most Obed^t. hum Serv^{ts}.

To the Hon^{ble}. William
Johnson Commander in chief of
the Army at Lake George.

P Lyman
Seth Pomroy
Elip^t. Dyer
Elihu Chauncey
Nathan Whiting
John Pitkin.

A true Copy Examined by me
PETER WRAXALL
Secry

¹ See note 2, p. 174.

² In Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 17. p. 35, London, England. In Sir Charles Hardy to Sir Thomas Robinson, November 27, 1755. A draft of this document in the Library Collection was destroyed by fire.

Camp at Lake George 11 October 1755

P. M.

At a Council of War held in General Lyman's Tent
Present

General Lyman president

All the Field officers in Camp

except Lieu^t. Col^o. Ward & Lieu^t. Col^o. Whitcome
absent by Sickness

Cap^t. Eyre Engineer Gen^l. &c^a.

Cap^t. Glazier, Adjutant Gen^l.

Peter Wraxall Secretary

General Lyman acquainted this Council of War, that application having been made by himself and sundry Field Officers now present to General Johnson to call a Council of War upon the following Articles.

1. To take into consideration the present state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto.
2. Whether it is not best immediately to inform the Governments concerned in the Expedition thereof and desire their orders as to future proceedings.
3. To consider whether it is not best to dismiss a Number of Invalids from the service.

General Johnson had by reason of his present Indisposition desired him to preside at this Council of War, and to make a Report of their proceedings. Whereupon General Lyman desired this Council of War to take the foregoing Articles in to their serious consideration and give their Opinion on the same.

It is the opinion of this Council of War, that a Member of this Council from each Province be appointed a Committee to draw up a particular state of this Army, and all circumstances relating thereto, and make a Report of the same to this Council

of War at their next meeting. And the following Gentlemen were appointed to be that Committee

Col^o. Bagley for Massachusetts Bay

Col^o. Dyer for Connecticut

Col^o. Cockcroft for New York

Major Champlin for Rhode Island.

The Council deferred their opinion upon the second Article till the Committee had delivered their Report upon the first.

Upon the third Article this Council of War are of Opinion, that such Soldiers as are unfit for duty, and are not likely to be of any service to the Army this Fall, may have a Furlow to return home from the Commanding Officer of each Regiment with the Generals approbation

The Council of War was then Adjourned by the presid^t. to 6 oClock to Morrow Evening.

12 October Sunday Evening about 6 oClock

Present

Major General Lyman

All the Field Officers in Camp except Lieut. Col^o. Ward and Lieut. Col^o. Whitcomb

Major Payson added to the Council

Cap^t. Eyre and Cap^t. Glazier.

Peter Wraxall Secretary.

The Committee delivered in their Report of the particular state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto, which was read to the Council and is as follows.

WHEREAS the Council of War have appointed and chosen us William Cockcroft, Elip^t. Dyer, Jonathan Bagly, and Christopher Champlin, as a Committee to take into Consideration the present state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto, and make Report thereof to the said Council. We in consequence thereof make the following Report.

We find that our Army at Present Encampt near Lake George including the Reinforcements already arrived consists of about 3600 Men, the Garison now at Fort Edward of 500 men, and the recruits at Albany and on their March hither of about 2500 men, the whole amounting to 6600. whereof by the several returns from the Regiment here, and at Fort Edward, it appears that about 700 are unfit for duty, besides many others who must soon inevitably be rendered incapable of Duty, thro' want of proper Lodging, Bedding, Watchcoats, and other necessaries against the inclemency of the weather to which they are continually exposed, in Camp duty, in building the Fort mending the Roads, Advanced and scouting parties, in all which different services they cannot have the use of fire.

[As to the Grand and important point of Provisions, it is notorious from returns of the several Commissaries from time to time given in, the Army in General has never at any time (since their Encampment at Lake George) been possessed of two weeks provisions¹ advance, (saving the Article of Meat) notwithstanding the utmost efforts used by his Excellency Governor Hardy at Albany, in impressing Waggons and furnishing the Convoys, and that too when the weather was favourable and the Roads Waggons and Horses all in good order, much less can we now expect to have such a supply of Provisions, when our Troops are considerably Augmented, the inclemency of the Weather daily encreasing, and the Roads in may places almost impassable, numbers of Waggons broke and destroyed, many horses killed and worn out in the service, and from the present Season of the year, heavy rains may be daily expected, when the three Branches of the Mohawks River, and Hudsons River at Saraghtoga will be rendered impassable, but admitting all our former Advantages were still to continue, yet before it could be possible to get up from Albany provisions for the present Consumption and also a Sufficiency for the Army to proceed, the Season would be so

¹ Word omitted in the original; probably "in."

far advanced, that it would be morrally impossible to undergo the rigour of the Weather.

The above Considerations are humbly submitted to the honourable Members of the Council of War by their

Most Obed^t. hum^e Serv^{ts}.

William Cockcraft

Elip^t. Dyer

Jonathan Bagly

Chris: Champlin.

Camp Lake George

October 12th. 1755.

The foregoing Report was unanimously accepted by this Council of War] as containing the present state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto.

Upon the second Article this Council of War are unanimously of opinion that the General be advised to transmit the Minutes of this Council, to the several Governments concerned and desire their orders as to future proceedings.

P: Lyman.

Peter Wraxall Secry

A true Copy from the Original Examined
by me PETER WRAXALL Secry

Copy Exam^d. by

GW BANYAR D Secry

INDORSED: Camp at Lake George
 Oct^r. 11th. & 12 — 1755
 Minutes of Council of War
 in Gov^r. Hardy's of the
 27. Nov^r. 1755

FROM MOSES EMERSON ET AL

There are found in the Johnson Calendar (See pp. 56-57) a commissary report of October 11th from Moses Emerson on rum, axes and provisions forwarded by Samuel Gardineer; an order from Wraxall of the

same date to Major John Hazelton, at or near Albany, to oversee the wagon train of the army; minutes of a court of inquiry held on the 11th and the 15th, investigation of alleged mutinous conduct of Captain Esekial Peirce and finding of guilt; proceedings of a council of war held on the 11th regarding the state of the army, proper course to adopt and dismissal of invalids; and a letter of the 11th from Philip John Schuyler to Wraxall on evidence given at court martial against William Caleb, accused of sleeping at his post. All were destroyed by fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

Albany 12 Octo. 1755.

DEAR SIR

Your Letter of the 7th I had an opportunity of seeing as it was laid before the Council. Two things in it gave me a great deal of Uneasiness, the first, which surprizes every body here, that the Flat Bottomed Boats began so long since, advance so slowly, that one only is yet finished; and the other that the Carpenters are not only unwilling to Work but wanted Broad Axes if they were willing to work. As to the first, as I understand the Matter, it is owing to the confusion the Army were thrown into after the Attack, which prevented their doing anything but what tended to secure themselves ag^t. a second attempt: we at this distance are not so proper Judges, & therefore have never apprehended any such thing, but rather thought the Enemy were in that Situation. And tis hard to conceive that 100 Carpenters could not be spared for the Scows. They dont want complete Workmen. And as to the 2d since without them Crown Point could not be attacked, nor prudently without building Forts to secure your Retreat, are not these things inseparable from the Service the Men were inlisted in. And if the Provinces have not made Provision for Extra Pay to those who are employed as Carpenters (as our Province has done by allowing £50) their Pay is large, & this & the Spirit they pretend to have for the

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Enterprise, ought to have contented them, relying that the diff. Provinces would if it was reasonable make them some allowance. For my own Part I think they have no right to expect it, and that the Publick are intitled to every Mans Service, from the highest to the lowest, be it in their Power to exert it in whatever way, on the Terms they engaged, which was Pay and Provisions. And this backwardness is I fear owing principally to the officers not exerting that Authority, which however weak it may be thought, would upon tryal have been found effectual: 'tis vain to think of carrying on our Expedition if the Men will not work. they are paid & fed for it as well as to fight, & the latter is not to be done without the former, as they cannot approach an Enemy. The Expence you see must otherwise be infinite. Again, if Carpenters or Mechanicks of any kind (I speak of those found among the Army not those who are under perticular agreement) are to be paid, why not Labourers, and if for building Forts or Scows, why not for throwing up Intrenchments round their Camp, since every Measure of that Sort is equally necessary for their Preservation. I am ashamed of them. These are the blessed Effects of that unbounded Liberty we boast of & value ourselves for. Every Man with you thinks himself as at home, & that he's a right to be directed by his own Sentiments. In this Case the very Essence of an Army is wanting, I mean a due Subordination. I confine what I say to general things principally. I know you must suffer a good deal on these Accounts, and imagine you see these things in much the same light as I do. My view in taking notice of them, is only to remind you of the necessity (in matters of greater concern) there is of its appearing in a proper manner that you exerted the Authority you are invested with. That you should be reduced to the necessity of abandoning the Work on the Scows, that the Fort might go on, & that the latter will take a month still to finish is what cannot I think be accounted for, but by the officers and Men being disobedient to orders, and where the whole are so, there's no Punishing. The stop put to the Scows, seems, tho I suppose it is not, a measure

taken in Consequence of a determination not to proceed further. If you have not waggons or provisions enough, I believe it is not sufficiently well known here. The Governor inquired about your Order for Broad Axes, w^{ch} perhaps had not come to light or you supply'd so soon otherwise. The Commissaries on all sides appear to me to have been too indolent. And how clearly am I convinced now, how serviceable Mr. DeLancey would have been if he had come up here 3 Months ago. a Hint that was given time enough. To conclude since I Fear we cannot do what is most wish'd for: I hope we may secure Ticonderoga, the Fort at the Lake & Fort Edward, and lay up all the Batoes and Stores in Places of Security, that there may be no necessity of another Provision next year. I need not apologize any more for the Freedom I take. Adieu and believe me to be sincerely yours

GW BANYAR

Mr. Ogilvie begs his Compliments & will write to you soon. I begin to grow homesick & I dont see we are likely to go from hence this fortnight.

FROM JOHN LISCOM ET AL

The foregoing letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar (*See* p. 57) by a report of the officers of guard and day; John Liscom's report as captain of artillery guard; Captain Robert Rogers's report of scouting (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:262-63; Q, 4:171); Timothy Putnam's report to Rogers (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:266; Q, 4:173); Israel Putnam's report to Rogers (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:264-65; Q, 4:172); and Captain Hunt's report to Rogers (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:265; Q, 4:172-73), all of October 12th. All were destroyed by fire.

FROM BARON DIESKAU

L. S.¹*a albany Le 12 8^{bre}. 1755*

Si mes forces m'avoient permis Monsieur, de tenir plutot la plume, je n'aurois pas attendu jusques a ce jour pour vous renouveler les sentimens de reconnoissance que je dois a toutes vos bontés. Celles que j'ai reçues de vous dans votre Camp et celles que je reçois ici tous les jours de M^{de}. votre soeur sont d'une nature a n'être jamais oubliées.

malgré La triste situation ou je me trouve moy même, je n'ai pô m'empêcher de partager avec M^{de}. ferrall Les peines de celle ou elle se trouve, quoyque je n'ai jamais eu lieu de m'en appercevoir, par la force qu'elle a pris sur elle de me la cacher, et de vouloir me persuader même que je ne luy causois aucun embarras, un des motifs qui me feroit le plus desirer ma guerison, seroit de pouvoir trouver quelqu' occasion dans ma vie, ou je serois assés heureux de pouvoir vous temoigner et a elle tout ce que je dois a ses bontés a ses soins et a ses attentions, qui passent peut etre tout ce que j'aurois pô esperer dans le sein de ma famille

je ne connois point assés mon etat, Monsieur, pour vous en rendre Compte. je souffre toujours, et je ne vois encore point de jour pour ma guerison, surtout a L'egard de la blessure qui passe par la vessie; cependant on m'assure que je ne suis point en danger et on me trouve en etat de me faire partir demain pour new york² ce que je desirois ardemment, moins par l'esperance d'y trouver plus de secours qu'ici, que par l'envie que j'avois de delivrer madame votre soeur de l'embarras que je luy cause, et pour luy oter de devant les yeux un objet qui doit renouveler sans

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

² On October 7 Governor Hardy wrote from Albany to a committee of the council at New York that he proposed in a few days to send down the Baron and his aide and desired that suitable lodgings be provided and the aide admitted to parole but kept away from the fortifications. Council Minutes, 25:76.

cesse ses douleurs, quoyque je n'aye jamais eu lieu de m'appercevoir ni de L'un, ni de L'autre

vous avez eu la bonté, Monsieur, de vous charger de mes premieres lettres pour le Canada, je vous demande le même service pour celles-ci.

souffrez, je vous prie Monsieur, que j'assure ici M. D'airys et M. votre aide de camp de mes sentimens d'estime et d'amitié que je leur dois pour eux même et pour celle qu'ils m'ont temoignée.

j'ai L'honneur d'être avec un tres sincere attachement

Monsieur

Votre tres humble et

tres obeissant serviteur

LE BARON DE DIESKAU

M. DE JOHNSON

mon aide de camp a L'honneur devons presenter ses sentimens pleins de respect et de reconnoissance et d'assurer de ses civilités M d'ayres et m. de wrexell.

Translation

At Albany the 12th of October, 1755

If my strength had permitted me, sir, to take a pen in hand sooner, I should not have waited to this day to renew to you the expressions of gratitude which I owe for all your kind favors. Those which I received from you in your camp and those which I receive here every day from your sister¹ are of a nature never to be forgotten.

In spite of the unhappy situation in which I find myself, I can not help sharing in the grief of Mrs Ferrall for the situation in which she finds herself, although I have never had reason to observe it, because of the effort which she has made to conceal it, and even of wishing to persuade me that I was causing her no

¹ Wife of Captain Matthew Ferrall, or Farrell, killed at the battle of Lake George.

trouble. One of the motives which makes me most desirous of recovery is to be able to find some opportunity in my life in which I shall be so happy as to be able to testify to you and to her to all that I owe to her kind acts, to her care and to her attentions, which exceed perhaps all that I could have hoped for in the bosom of my family.

I do not understand my condition sufficiently, sir, to be able to give you an account of it. I suffer continually, and I see no day as yet for my recovery, particularly as regards the wound which traverses the bladder; however they assure me that I am not in danger, and they find me in a condition to be sent off tomorrow to New York, which I ardently desire, less from hope to find there more relief than here than from the wish which I have to relieve your sister of the trouble which I cause her, and to remove from her eyes an object which must continually renew her sorrows, although I have never had occasion to perceive either the one or the other.

You have had the goodness, sir, to burden yourself with my first letters for Canada; I ask of you the same favor for these. Permit me here, I beg you, sir, to assure Mr Eyre and your aide-de-camp of my feelings of esteem and friendship, which I owe them for themselves and for that which they have shown to me.

I have the honor to be with a very sincere attachment,

Sir

Your very humble and
very obedient servant

BARON DE DIESKAU

MR. JOHNSON

My aide-de-camp has the honor to present to you his feelings of respect and gratitude and to send his regards to Mr Eyre and Mr Wraxall.

TO THOMAS FITCH¹*Df.*²*Camp at Lake George 13 October 1755.*

SIR

I am favoured with your Honours Letter bearing date the 22 Sep^r.

Your congratulations on our Success against the Enemy are very acceptable & obliging & your kind concern for my wound has my particular gratitude; The Ball is not yet extracted, however it gives me little or no pain, but from another cause I have been & continue so much Discorded as to be mostly confined to my Bed & wholly to my Tent for several Days. It began with a violent Inflammation in the side of my Head, w^{ch} afterwards fixed in my Ear where it remains & gives me great anguish. I have been blistered, purged & twice Bled, all w^{ch} has made me extreamly Weak.

It has been thought necessary at this Juncture that a Field officer from the Troops of your Gov^t. should be dispatched to you, in order to represent our present Situation & all other Circumstances relating to this Army in a more ample & satisfactory manner than can be done by writing. Lieut. Col. Pitkin was named to me by Gen^l Lyman & other Gentⁿ. from your Gov^t. as a proper Person.

I was pleased with their choice, he has been with us from the beginning, & is a Gentleman of whose Capacity & Merit I have a high opinion. I shall refer your Honour to him for particulars.

¹ Thomas Fitch was born in 1699 in Norwalk, Conn.; was graduated at Yale College; studied law, and filled the offices in his native colony of councilor, judge of the superior court, lieutenant governor and governor, occupying the last named from 1754 to 1766, when, because of his compliance with the requirements of the stamp act, a new governor was thrust into his place by the general assembly. He died July 18, 1774, and was buried at Norwalk.

² Original destroyed by fire.

Herewith I transmit you the Minutes of a Council of War I summoned the 9 Inst & wrote a Letter to General Lyman to preside thereat & lay the particulars before them as mentioned in my s^d. Letter to him a Copy of w^{ch} is annexed to the Minutes, Copies also of Cap^t. Websters Report & Gov^r. Shirleys Letter referred to in the said Minutes. By the returns from the several Reg^{ts}. here the 7 & 8 Inst. we then had in Camp 2560 Men fit for duty & 540 Sick & wounded, Serg^{ts}. Corp^s. & Drums included. By reinforcements arrived at 8 & 9th at Night the Council of War calculated our Numbers fit for Duty in Camp to be about 3000.

By the last Intelligence we received from Tionderoga, by Cap^t. Rodgers of the New Hampshire Reg^t. a Brave & honest Man, who was very near the French Encampm^t. there, he says the Enemys Camp appeared as large as ours & that he judged he saw a Work or Fort there & Artillery, that at the Head of the Carrying Place, they had an advanced Camp of, as he judges near 1000. French & Ind^s.

Three other Spies I Sent to Tionderoga who returned yesterday, being two Cap^{ts} & one Ensign say they did not dare venture near enough to Tionderoga to make observations, finding or mistrusting they were discovered by the Enemys out Scouts. That on this side the Carrying Place they were very near & plainly saw two Encamp^{ts}. of the Enemy on each side the Lake one of French & one of Indians, w^{ch} two of them say, they judge to am^t. to between 7 & 800 Men, one of them writes a 1000. The Lake at this place they say is not above 32 or 33 Rod over, and that they heard the noise of Workmen wth. axes & other Tools as if Works were making w^{ch} they could not clearly discover for the thick Brush.

Some days ago a French Deserter came to this Camp the only one we have had. He left Tionderoga (w^{ch} is but 15 Miles from Crown Point) 3 or 4 days before Cap^t. Rodgers was there, Gen^l. Lyman examined him. He reports there were at the advanced post only 70 or 80 of the Enemy & ab^t. 400 at Tion-

deroga. It is thought tho these Acc^{ts}. vary, they are yet reconcilable when the Distance of time is considered, & the Distance from Crown point to Tionderoga. He said he knew of no Artillery. I sent him down to Albany to Gov^r. Hardy & I shall desire Col. Pitkin to take with him a Copy of this Fellows information. Tomorrow I propose to send some more Spies & upon their Return & Intelligence being favourable & our getting a suff^t. supply of Provisions, to propose to the Council of War some further Proceedings against the Enemy w^{ch} if Prudent & practicable I am extreamly desirous should take place.

I send also your Honour herewith a Copy of an Application made to me by General Lyman & sundry officers for a Council of War on the Points therein mentioned. I complied & the Minutes of said Council of War go herewith.

I submit every thing as to future Opporations wherein present Circumstances do not authorize me, to those Directions w^{ch} the several Gov^{ts}. concerned in this Armament shall think proper to send.

I should have been more punctual & frequent in my Correspondence with your Honour, but has not been in my Power. Mr. Wraxall who is my Sec^{ry}. has been also my only Aid de Camp & till very lately Judge Advocate, for all w^{ch}. offices he has neither pay or Perquisites nor was any Establishm^t. provided by the Gov^{ts}. for them. My hands & his have been always so full of the immediate Concerns of the Army, that my public Correspondence has unavoidably suffered by it. I am most respectfully Sir y^r Honours Your most ob^{dt} hum Serv^t.

To the Honourable

GOVERNOR FITCH.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹*Camp at Lake George 13 October 1755*

SIR

My last to Your Excellency was the 10 Inst. herewith I transmit you a Copy of an Application made to me in writing by General Lyman & sundry other Feild officers to order a Council of War upon the Points mentioned in said Paper. I complied with their request & inclose Your Excellency the Copy of the Minutes of said Council.

They have desired a Feild officer from Connecticut & Massachusetts should go to their respective Gov^{ts}. with Copies of the Minutes of this Council as a very Necessary Measure at this Juncture. I have given my Consent for Lieu^t. Col. Pitkin² & Col. Ruggles to go.

I have wrote those Gov^{ts}. that when Circumstances will allow me to renew my proposal of making any advances towards the Enemy, I shall do it, as I should be most sincerely rejoiced to promote any Prudent Measures for our proceeding further.

Yesterday the Party I sent up the Lake & the Spies I dispatched to Tionderogo returned. The former report they were discovered by the Enemy & near being circumvented by them. The latter report the Enemys Scouts were so thick & alert about Tionderogo they durst not venture near enough to make any discoveries. That on this side the Carrying Place where the Lake is not above 32 or 30 Rods Wide, they plainly saw two Encampments on the two Points, of French on one & Indians on the other w^{ch}. they judged amounted to 7 or 800. (two Cap^{ts}. give this Number an Ensign another of the Spies for they went separately) reports near 1000 — that in the Morning for they viewed 'em by their Fires at night they heard a great noise of workmen

¹ Original destroyed by fire. The last two paragraphs added by W^raxall.

² John Pitkin, of East Hartford, Conn.

with axes Adzes, Saws &c. but could not see what work they were about for the Brush. this is a summary of their Reports, & as to this advanced Party corresponds with the former Acc^t. of Cap^t. Rodgers whose Bravery & Veracity stands very clear in my Opinion & of all who know him, tho his Reg^t. is gone he remains here a Volunteer, & is the most active Man in our Army. Tomorrow he proposes to set off with two or three picked Men take a review if he can of Tionderogo & proceed to Crown Point for a Pris^r. Cap^t. Angel of the Rhode Island Reg^t. a thinking Man & a good officer, proposes to set off tomorrow in order at my desire to sound the Lake as he goes along & endeavour to take a View of the Enemy at the Carrying Place or narrows & at Tionderogo.

I have mentioned Cap^t. Rodgers more particularly as I have Understood some Insinuations have been made to his Disadvantage I believe him to be as brave & as honest a Man as any I have equal knowledge of, & both myself & all the Army are convinced that he has distinguished himself since he has been among us, superior to most, inferior to none of his Rank in these Troops. I am most respectfully Sir

Your Excellencys Most obed^t. & obliged Serv^t.

I propose to order two or three companies of the expected Reinforcements, besides the two I have already ordered to reinforce Fort Edward, in order to compleat the works there, but unless we can be furnished with a Supply of Axes Spades & shovels, both Forts cannot go on together, for we can spare no Tools from hence but could employ more. and I dread the Season & other Circumstances, unless these Forts are compleated with all possible Dispatch & indeed as the reinforcements pour in upon us, near 500 arrived this Evening, we shall soon want Bread & some other Provisions. Another thing I beg leave to lay before Y^r Excellency, w^{ch} is to press some large flat Bottomed Boats w^{ch} are to be had I apprehend at & about Albany, for passing the Sprouts & the River at Seraghtoga, for if Rains come, those

places will be impassible for Waggon. I keep constant Road parties out between this & Fort Edward, & have ordered the same from thence to the River on this side Seraghtoga.

The General would have all the Reinforcements stay at Albany but such as the necessity of the Service may call for. He dreads the want of Bread here. Our Numbers are more than Sufficient for every present purpose here. Tools we very much Want.

The General is verry Weak with pain, want of Sleep &c. and keeps mostly in Bed. I have the honour to be Your Excellencys

Most Obedient & Obliged Serv^t.

To His Excellency SIR CHARLES HARDY.

FROM JOHN TAPLIN ET AL

This letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar (*See* p. 57) by John Taplin's report of scouts, of October 13th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:266; Q, 4:173) and Henry Babcock's report, of October 13th (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:266; Q, 4:173). Both were destroyed by fire.

TO SPENCER PHIPS

L. S.¹

Camp at Lake George 13 Octr. 1755.

SIR

My last to Your Honour bore date the 10 Inst. since which an Application was made to me in Writing by Major General Lyman & sundry Field Officers to order a Council of War upon certain points contained in said Written Application, a Copy of which I herewith send you, I complied with their request & transmit you also a Copy of the Minutes of their Council of War.

The Council were of opinion that at this Critical Juncture a member from each Gov^t. might have to go in Person with these Minutes in order to give such Ample Information as might

¹ In Massachusetts Archives. The draft of this letter was destroyed in the Capitol fire.

be necessary to possess the Governments concerned in this Armament with a just State of our present Situation & Circumstances. As the former Council of War were of opinion I should give Col. Ruggles leave to go to Boston, I have done it & send this Packet by him; to him I refer you Sir & I cannot refer you to a more capable Person for all such Information relative to this Army which you may stand in need of. he is at the Head of those Commanding Officers who have enforced Subordination in the Regiments they Command, kept up the Dignity of their Rank & distinguished themselves in a meritorious Manner, particularly in our late Engagement with the Enemy, His Feild Officers & Liu^t Nixon among the Inferior Officers are some of the foremost in my good Opinion, and had it been left in my power I should have paid them the distinction due to their Merit on the late Vacancies.

Yesterday the Party I sent out & the Spies to Tionderogo returned, the former report they were discovered by the Enemy & in danger of being circumvented & Obligated to secure themselves; the latter report they found the Enemys out Scouts so vigilant & thick about Tionderogo, they did not dare venture near enough for Observation, but say they plainly discovered an advance Encampment of the Enemy at a narrow pass on this Lake about 32 Rod Wide & about 4 or 5 Miles from Tionderogo, French on¹ side & Indians on the other, amounting, (two of them report, *Captains*) to between 7 & 800 — the other an *Ensign*, reports to about 1000 — This Confirms Captain Rodgers former Account as to the advanced post. to morrow I propose to send out Captain Rodgers again with a Captain on whom I have equal Dependance to review the Enemy. Cap^t Rodgers who is a Gallant honest Man says he will proceed to Crown Point & if possible bring us a Prisoner. Crown Point is 15 Miles distance from Tionderogo.

When Circumstances will justify my proposing our proceeding further towards the Enemy to a Council of War, I shall renew

¹ Omission in the copy; "one" should be supplied.



*S^r William Johnson Bar^t
Major General of the English Forces in North America*

the Proposal, in the mean while I would Wish that our Sittuation & all relative Circumstances may be taken into Consideration & Orders sent me to regulate my future Conduct

I am most respectfully Sir

Your most Obed^t hum serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

As the Dispatch of these Minutes is recommended to me by the Council of War, I must beg your Honour will transmit as soon as possible a Copy of these Minutes as well as the Papers in mine of the 10 Inst to the Gov^{rs}. of New Hampshire & Rhode Island I cannot get them done in time — This Even^g. 9 or 10 Comp^s. of y^r. Reinforcem^{ts} arrived. I fear we shall want Bread for the Army. The Fort is in hand & I am pushing it forward.
To the Honourable

GOVERNOR PHIPPS

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹

Camp at Oswego Octo^r. 13th. 1755

SIR

Last Night I receiv'd your two Letters dated at Lake George the 22^d. and 30th. Sept^r., with the papers inclos'd, in the latter of which you desire my directions as soon as may be.

You acquaint me in your letter of the 22^d. of Sept^r. you think the time even then grately elaps'd for proceeding further.

In the same letter you Inform me you have sent your Secretary to the Several Governments for their respective Opinions upon the present Situation of affairs Under Your Command, and propose they shall be transmitted to me, so that my directions are to be founded upon their Opinions; Your Secretary's Tour, and the Return of the Opinions of the Governments to me, will probably take up to the End of Nov^r. w^{ch} will be Extreemly late for me to send you Directions.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

The time for your desiring my Directions Should have been as soon as possible after your action with the French on the 8th. Instant, at w^{ch} time you Inform'd by the way of Albany, all the other Governors Concern'd in the Expedition under your Command, of it.

You must have however received, Sir, by this time, all the directions, I could properly give you at this Distance, and w^{ch} I thought it my Duty to send you unask'd; w^{ch} then was to proceed to Tinonderoge.

With regard to the Work Erected at the Carrying Place, and the other propos'd to be Built at Lake George (Sketches of both w^{ch} Cap^t. Eyre hath sent me) my Sentiments concerning them continue the Same; the first I think is at all Events too Weak; as to the latter, if the Expedition against Crown point is to end at Lake George (w^{ch} I dont think the Colonies concern'd can possibly acquiesce in, nor the Government at home be Satisfy'd with) then I think for covering Albany it will be Necessary not only to have a Strong Fort Erected at Lake George, but at South Bay too, and perhaps another at the end of Wood Creek; after all with¹ the Frontier of New England will still remain Expos'd in a great Measure to the Incursions of the French & their Indians from Crown point, Unless another Fort is Built at Otter Creek or some other proper place: If the Fort at Crown point is to be reduced, there will, I think, not be a Necessity for a very Strong Work at Lake George, or at either of the other two places.

I am very sorry to find by your letter of the 22^d. Sept^r. that you disapprove of the Behaviour of the Officers & Soldiers under your Command since the Action at Lake George.

You well know my Opinion concerning the Serviceableness of your Secretary; that it is a very different one from what you Express, in your Letter of the 30th. of Sept^r., of him some of your officers wou'd have been in my Opinion more proper to have been Dispatch'd to their respective Governments for their Opin-

¹ So in copy. "Wch" rather than "with" was probably written.

ions; w^{ch} might in that way have been more Expeditiously and Effectually Obtain'd than by sending him.

Upon the Application of the late Cap^t. King, who then Commanded one of the Independent Companies posted here and in w^{ch} he is a Lieutenant, I could not Dispense with Sending orders five weeks ago, to be delivered to him upon his return to Albany, directing him to repair to his Post here.

I am Sir,

Your Most Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

FROM WILLIAM SYMES ET AL

The preceding letter was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 58 by a report of officers of guard and day, dated October 13th, which was destroyed by fire; William Symes's report of scouting, written October 14th, destroyed, but printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:268-69; Q, 4:174; Jelles Fonda's report of scouting, written October 14th, destroyed, but printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:267-68; Q, 4:174; William Symes's report of scouting, undated, destroyed, but printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:267; Q, 4:173; Wraxall's orders to regimental commissaries for supplying Captain Samuel Bayard and five men, with provisions and rum by weekly rotation, in this order, New York, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, dated October 14th, destroyed; and Johnson's orders of the same date to commanding officers of provincial regiments to march to Albany, or, if there, to remain, provisions being short, with directions for convoying provision train, destroyed.

FROM WILLIAM COCKCROFT

D. S.¹

Camp at Lake George 14th. October 1755

To the Hon^{ble} WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r. Major Gen^l & Commander in cheif of all the forces now in Camp or Elsewhere Design'd for Crown Point.

The Humble Petition of William Cockcroft in the behalf of the Commission'd NonCommission'd officers & Soldiers belong'g

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

to my Regm^t. who was in the Late Ingagement Humbly Sheweth That whereas application has been made to me Respecting the plunder they took from the Enemy on the 8th. Ultimo and brought into this Camp by s^d officers and Soldiers, Who rec^d. Orders to March back to Fort Edward from whence they came, was in hopes that Each man might for the Good Service he had done of carry'd the plunder he had taken with him, But was hinder'd by Some New England Officers from carrying any who told, 'em it was the Gen^{ls} Positive orders to Stop all plunders from 'em That an Equal Dividend might be made of the same to the Men who Engag'd on the Same Ground where they fought — Since which tho Severall Times requested that if any did belong to 'em that they might have it. But as yet no Dividend has been made Either of Plunder or Money, And my men thinking 'em Selves wrong'd have Petition'd me to See them Justice done, as the Hampshire men was w^t them had not any thing taken from 'em — I must in their behalf Petition your Honours to Get 'em Righted as I think myself in Duty bound so to do In doing of which you^l very much Oblige your Petitioner Who is for 'em

Your most Obed: H^{ble} Serv^t

W^m: COCKCROFT

TO THE COMMANDANT AT FORT EDWARD

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 14 Octo^r 1755.

SIR

Colonel Ruggles I suppose furnished you with such standing Orders as I have given him relating to the Command of Fort Edward & I hope you will see them duly put in Execution, tho I gave repeated orders for having the Road from Fort Edward to Seraghtoga thoroughly mended, Bridges & Causeways made & Repaid² where they are wanting. I find by a party from

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Should be "repaired."

Albany last night, they are in a deplorable Condition; I desire you will order such an officer as you can depend upon & a party sufft. to have this Work perfected with all possible Dispatch, for otherwise it will be impossible for us to get Provisions hither in Waggons or Cannon brot. up to us, if 50 Men are not sufft. let 100 or more be Detached, it is what must & shall be done, & I expect a strict Account from you of this Matter. I would have the party stay out 5 days & if it cannot be compleated in that time beginning from the East side of Seraghtoga River, let another party be immediately sent out on their return. If the party consists of 50 let there be a Cap^t. 1 Sub & 2 Serg^{ts}. if of near 100 — 1 Capt 2 Subs & 4 Serg^{ts}. and return me the names &c. of the Commission officers who are sent.

You are out of the Massachusetts Reinforcements to make up your Garrison 600 Men fit for Duty. And by the advice of a Council of War this Day, I shall inclose you an Order to the Commanding Officer of the remaining reinforcements expected from Massachusetts to return back with the first Convoy of empty Waggons to Albany as also any Connecticut Reinforcements who may arrive at your Fort. This is done on Acc^t. of the Bread w^{ch}. cannot or is not sent up fast enough to subsist the Troops w^{ch}. are here. I woud have send to meet the Massachusetts Troops w^{ch}. are said to be coming thro the Woods with the Inclosed order to march to Albany & follow the Orders w^{ch}. I shall lodge there for them. Every Monday you are to make returns to Cap^t. Wraxall my Aid de Camp of all Troops in Garrison at Fort Edward & acquaint me from time to time of your proceedings.

I am Sir

Your very hum Serv^t.

To the Commanding officer at Fort Edward.

Send under a secure Guard Blanchard the French Deserter to me, and send the others well secured to the Gov^r. of New York at Albany.

PETITION AND RETURNS FROM OFFICERS

The preceding was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 58–59 by an undated petition from the officers of Colonel Ephraim Williams's regiment asking that Colonel Pomeroy succeed Williams and other vacancies be filled from regiment when practicable; a deficiency return of ammunition of October 14th, from Colonel Eliphalet Dyer; and an undated return from Colonel Elihu Chauncey's regiment. These were destroyed by fire.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.¹

Camp at Lake George P. M. Tuesday 14 Octo^r. 1755

Pres^t.General Lyman, Presid^t.

Col. Cockcroft

Col. Dyer

Col. Chancey

Col. Bagley

Col. Willard

Lieu^t. Col. NicholsLieu^t. Col. Whiting

Col. Harris

Col. Pomeroy

Maj^r. ChamplinCap^t. EyreCap^t GlazierPeter Wraxall, Secr^y.

General Johnson by Cap^t. Wraxall his Aid D. Camp & Secretary desires this Council of War will take into Consideration, the Number of Men now at this Encamp^t and the Quantity of Bread in the several Commisarys hands, & also the probable Consequences of the great rains of yesterday, last night & this day, with regard to the future supply of Bread & some other Stores from Albany, likewise, the Reinforcements from Massachusetts Bay now on their March hither & part of them probably already got to Fort Edward, & give their Opinion Whether under our Present Circumstances it will not be a necessary Measure, after Garrisoning Fort Edward with 600. Men fit for Duty, to order the remainder of the Reinforcements w^{ch} may be arrived there, to march down to Albany immediately, and to take Measures to send notice to the rest who may be on the Road from Massa-

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

chusetts hither to march also to Albany & remain there till further Orders. Or what other Measures with respect to these Matters they may think adviseable.

2 The Secr^y also read to this Council of War a part of Letter from the Gen^l. to S^r. Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York concerning the Reinforcements at Albany, for their approbation.

3 The General further desires this Council will consider & advise him if he can take any Step or give any fresh Orders in order to make the present Stock of Bread in Camp, last as long as possible in order to avoid Distress, if the Roads or other Circumstances should Delay our expected & necessary Supplies.

4 Mr. Wraxall further laid before this Council of War from Gen^l. Johnson, the Petition from Col. W^m. Cockcroft, w^{ch} was sent to him this Day & desires the Council will take it into Consideration & give their Opinion thereon.

Upon the First & Second Articles it is the Opinion of this Council of War that all the reinforcements w^{ch} may be at Albany, on the Road to Fort Edward or at Fort Edward unless such a number of the Massachusetts Reinforcements as may be necessary to compleat the Garrison at said Fort to 600 Men fit for Duty, be ordered by the General to remain at, return, or march to Albany & remain there till further Orders. And that the General be advised to Order the Duty of Guards & Convoys from Albany to be done by the Massachusetts & Rhode Island Reinforcements by proportionable Detachments as that Burthen has lately lain Chiefly on Connecticut.

Upon the 3^d. article the Council cannot at present think of any Advice necessary for them to give to the General in relation to any fresh Orders.

Upon the 4. article, the follow'g Gentlemen are appointed a Committee to take an acc^t. of all the Plunder taken in late Engagements on the 8 Sep^r.

Lieut. Col. Nicholls Lieut. Col Whiting Lieut. Col Cole & Cap^t Matthews who are to render an Acc^t. to a Council of War.

P LYMAN

PETER WRAXALL

TO TIMOTHY RUGGLES ET AL

The above document was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 58 by Wraxall's instructions to Colonel Timothy Ruggles, dated October 14th, in relation to Massachusetts reinforcements at Fort Edward, forwarding and care of provisions, permission to go to Boston, and despatches. It was destroyed by fire. In the Johnson Calendar, p. 59 are a minute of Council, of the 16th, respecting a supply of bread for the army, and orders of the 16th from Wraxall to Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gilbert respecting officers in command and vacancies in the regiment. Both were destroyed.

EXAMINATION OF A FRENCH DESERTER

D. S.¹*Camp at Lake George Thursday 16 Octo^r. 1755*

The Examination of a French Deserter.

Pres't General Johnson

Maj^r. General LymanLieu^t. Col. ColeCap^t. Schuyler Interp^r.Peter Wraxall Secr^{ry}.

Honorie Blanchard of the Marines came from Rochelle to Louisburgh in the Centliver Man of War ab^t 18 Mo^s. ago among some other Recruits for Mons^r. St. Piere's² Comp^y who he says was killed at this Camp. That he came with 400 Marines & Canadians to Crown Point in the Beginning of Aug^t. that he staid 3 Weeks there with the Army under General Dieskau w^{ch}. consisted with Indians of 3500 Men. One half of w^{ch} Mons^r. Deskau marched with hither & the other half was left at Crown Point & Carillon, that he remained at Carillon with 400 Troops posted there when Mons^r. Dieskau marched to this Camp. That Mons^r. Dieskau marched hither with all the Queens Regiment

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Legardeur de St Pierre.

& half the Reg^t. of Languedoc, w^{ch} made up 800.— the other half of the Languedoc Reg^t. remain'd at the Narrows near the Drowned Lands called by the French LaRoche where they threw up some Intrenchments. That since the Troops w^{ch} returned from the Engagement here left Carrillon, where they staid but one night, no more than 400 Troops have been posted there & the Commanding officer changed every Fortnight. That there are 200 Canadians constantly employed in throwing up Works at Carillon.

he says Mons^r. St. Peirre, One of the La Cornes Mons^r. Longeville ¹ Son to the Gov^r. of Montreal, Mons^r. Montessor, ² were all killed here or died of their Wounds.

That about a fortnight ago he & 15 more were fired at as they were upon this Lake in a Canoe.

That they used to keep an advanced Guard a League & a half from Carillon but now they have carried it to 2 large Leagues & a half on a sandy point where they have some Entrench^{ts}. that it consists of 70 Men & that the Lake is wide where they are posted & on the Aft side coming here that they never keep out any Parties by Land. That they have ab^t 15 Canoes & Battoes at Carrillon the Canoes carries 20 & the Battoes 50.

he was asked if he knew what Orders were given to the advanced Guard in case they discovered the approach of the English Army he says the Advanced Guards were to retire to Carrillon & at Carrillon the French Army the Soldiers say was to Join 'em from Crown Point and that 3000 Men could fight in the Entrenchments at Carillon w^{ch}. is of a Square Form of 50 yards each side & 5 Foot deep & 15 foot broad

That they have thrown up a Breast work at Carillon to cover the 400 Men posted there & people are continually at work & they have cleared the Wood all about there.

That they have a Cavillier Battery upon the Rocky Eminence near Crown Point, & judges they have a 100p^s. of Cannon at the Fort.

¹ Charles Jacques Le Moyne, third Baron de Longueuil.

² M. de Montesson.

That Mons^r. LeEpeigniers Commands at Crown Point. That 2 days before he left the Advanced Guard there came an Engineer there with the Major of the Queens Reg^t. & posted them a League nearer this Way.

That they brought no Prisoner with them when the Army returned from the Attack there, and that the French would have kept some of our People who were taken Prisoners but the Indians killed em all.

PETER WRAXALL

Sec^{ry}.

FROM WILLIAM EYRE ET AL

This document is followed in the Johnson Calendar (*See* p. 59) by Captain William Eyre's plan and directions for completing Fort Edward, dated October 17th; Wraxall's receipt for axes and order for augers, of the 18th, to Moses Emerson and other commissaries; his orders of the same date to Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gilbert about French deserters, with mention of commissions filled and sent; Johnson's orders of the 18th to Captain Samuel Howe to repair road near Fort Edward; a letter of the 18th from Sybrant G. Van Schaick, at Albany, to Johnson about cannon and shot to be sent to camp; a letter of the 18th to Johnson from Surgeon Thomas Williams concerning sickness of Colonel Pomeroy; and proceedings of a court of inquiry, held the 18th, on conduct of officers sent as scouts. All were destroyed by fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

Albany 18 Oct^r. 1755 Saturday.

DEAR SIR

Since my last which was sent several days after it was wrote, I have seen your Letter of the 13 and the Minutes of the 11 & 12 sent with it. The State of the army is represented in Terms very

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

strong, & which clearly show the impossibility *now* of sending the proper Supplies in due time, and therefore I cannot help acquiescing in the opinion that you cannot proceed unless you should be inclinable to build at Ticonderogo any Work that we may keep til next Spring. As to this, I am told the 5 French regulars lately come to Fort Edward all agree that there are no more than 400 Men at that place intrenched & a picketed Work encompassing it. At the same time I consid'r the Information of the Enemy's having taken Post at the Narrows in the Lake, and that having about three thousand men at Crown Point they may easily & soon send a Reinforcement to Tionderoga, if they should not have been obliged by the Season to send their principal Strength away, and trust to those 400 & the Garrison they may leave. If they are not retired, the taking this Post may be attended with much difficulty, otherwise I apprehend not, as we may send a Force suff^t. that may come upon them before they can get *any* Succour from Crown Point perhaps we might do this if they are not retired, but then the Measure would be fruitless perhaps, as they might in this Case retake it. 1000 or 1200 Men I should apprehend would be sufficient to be detached for this Service with a few small pieces of Cannon to secure the Post if taken. In Possession of this, we have the way open all but 15 miles. Some tell me we may proceed from here by Land as well as by water others say not. I should be glad to know how it is, I think it is not practicable by Land. I shou'd think the want of Provisions would be no obstacle to this measure if thought adviseable on other accounts, which, will much depend on the Intelligence you receive. The taking this Post will add much Credit to the army: and we may flatter ourselves enough of the Season is still left. I am a little surprised at the Councils disapproving of the building of ovens I forget their Reasons now, but when I read them they appeared of no Weight, and Ovens must be built in the End I suppose It is a most insolvable addition to the Expence & Trouble the sending Bread, and waggons are scarce enough already in this Method 3 are required where one would do

If you still find Difficulty in provisions may it not be proper to send down some diligent Person to see that the Roads are mended and the Waggon lose no time in their way, also to remove any obstacles the waters may occasion. If all will not do, I see you'll soon be reduc'd to the necessity of lessening your numbers, a loss that should be avoided if possible, least it might be a discouragement to those left. You have now only two points to accomplish (since it seems you cannot compass the grand one) the taking & securing Tionderoga if thought practicable & prudent, and the finishing the Forts in hand, & a third I might add of no small Consequence the collecting & even inventorying all the Battoes, Guns, Ammunition, Provisions Tools and other Provisions you leave. The care & account of which will afford a great Satisfaction to the Interested, as on the other Hand, the wasting of them will be a great discouragement to f¹ Operations. Is it not² necessary to send up the 4 18 pdn I think not, nay I am of that opinion tho you were to proceed, & why should we risque more than is absolutely necessary. I understand the Recorder is to wait your further Orders as to this. My dear Friend if your health will permit you consider if proper accommodations are not made for Garisons in the Forts they must be abandoned & the Stores in them lost. the greatest Disgrace that can possibly attend you or the army. As far as I can find Mr. Shirley does not incline to garrison them with Regulars, which Hint you'll keep to your self, perhaps when he arrives here he will change his mind. I cant see how he will answer the not doing it, and if the provinces should be inclinable to garrison them, put them to the Expençe of doing it when the Kings Troops, who must be paid and fed will be unemployed. Dunbars Troops are not yet landed, the Inhabitants say they cant quarter them I suspect they'll encamp to morrow, that Barracks will be built for 500, and as to the rest, I think they might quarter them in the

¹ The remainder of the word not copied. "Future" or "farther" was evidently written.

² "Not" for "now," evidently an error in copying.

Settlements to the N ward that the people have abandoned. The Baron went off yesterday, well pleased with his accommodation on board, & with the Compliment of a Guard of Regulars to the¹. The Gov^r. has furnished him with 100 Guineas & given him Credit on Mr Alexander for what he *really* wants. I doubt he cant live. Have you taken a proper Receipt to secure the Money he has from you.

Thus far I had wrote when the Servant call'd me to dinner, & very ready I was for it, as you may think when near 3, and the Alteration of the Air with a relaxation from Business of about 5 weeks which has given me a share of Health & Spirits that I have not felt the kind influences of these 9 Months — While at Dinner came in Col. Partridge from Boston Mr. Lyman came in when we had just done, & he was leaving us I Stop'd, and learn'd from him Mr. Partridge's Business, which he told Lyman, is, as a Plenipo, to push on if possible the Expedition ag^t. Crown Point. Partridge met Ruggles in his way & learnt I suppose from him the State of affairs. He says they (the Boston People) have fall'n on a Method to send up their own Provisions, & enquired of Lyman what there was, if there was enough, & prest him to use every Method in his Power to send them up In short whatever be the Motive I cant tell but his sole Business Lyman says is, maugre every Obstacle, to push things forward to an attack. The Success he meets with & the determinations here shall be the Subject of my next Letter — I dont know if it be from any thing I have wrote that you conclude doubts are entertained here of Cap^t. Rogers's veracity: I meant & still think he was imposed upon himself, & indeed to what Cause can you impute his mistake, which made almost thousands instead of hundreds. I think you push the Point a little too far in your Letter in his behalf unless Sir Charles had given Occasion for it in any of his Letters. Youl make a prudent use of any thing I may write by way of Information without communicating to any one more than you find necessary. This Gentleman is very close and

¹ Word omitted; "transport" possibly.

tho' he knows (I think) that I have a most sincere Friendship for you, yet I cannot tell if he would like my writing to you Even what I do know, from an opinion perhaps that what is necessary to be communicated to you should come from himself. I fancy by your not writing that you are not so well as I cou'd wish you to be. It was owing to your Recommendation or to what you write, that M^c.Ginnis was appointed. Cockcroft desired one of the Companies — The few French Ships at Louisburgh stole away in a Storm. Kolburne¹ could have taken them it's said at Boston but the admiral's Orders did not it was thought justify the captian² of Ships going *from* America. And the Admiral did not Care to risque hanging. Adieu I shall soon write.

GW BANYAR

About 30 Mohawks were here 'tother day, although the Gov. sent to tell them to go through the Woods from Schenectady He offered them 2 p^s. Strouds some Pipes & Tobacco w^{ch} they refused but were afterwards asham'd of it he gave them another & 1 lb of Vermillion & they went away satisfied, & said they'd sett off immediately to join you. Are they with you and how many of their Colour Dont forget to write to London concerning your own affairs & remember your Friend at Oswego you may depend on his doing you *every good office in his Power* Dunbar wont stir an Inch till he receives further Orders. My Compliments I beg you'd present to M^r. Wraxall & Cap^t. Eyre. The artillery I now hear will move to Morrow Morning under Eschort of 100 Rh.

GW BANYAR

FROM AARON HITCHCOCK

The preceding letter was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 59 by a report of Aaron Hitchcock, officer of guard, to Colonel Ebenezer Nichols, officer of the day, dated October 18th. It was destroyed by fire.

¹ Evidently Holbourne. ² Evidently "capture."

TO PHINEAS LYMAN

*Copy*¹

Camp at Lake George 18th October 1755.

SIR

I have order'd a Council of War of all the Field officers at this camp at 5 o'Clock this Evening, and as my indisposition still renders me unable to be at it, I desire you would preside. I send by my Secretary Cap^t Wraxall the intelligence from the last Scouts towards Ticondorogo, and the Examinations of the 5 french Deserters transmitted me from Fort Edward, and the Examination of Blanchard one of them whom I sent for here, also a letter with some papers I reciev'd from L^t Gov^r Phips this night

1st. I would propose to the Council of War whether they think it adviseable I should order a Detachment from this army to embark as soon as possible and attack the Enemy posted at or near the carrying place, & in case of their Success to proceed and endeavour to dislodge them from Ticondorogo.

If the Council of War approve of one or both of these attacks I desire they will advise what number of men & how many days Provisions it will be adviseable for me to order thereon, as also what further measures occur to them prudent to be taken upon this Scheme

Blanchard the Deserter has declar'd himself willing to go as a Pilot or Guide upon these attacks.

If a Council of War should not approve of either of these attacks, I desire they will express their Reasons or objections.

2. I desire the opinion of this Council of War, whether considering our present Stock of Bread & the prospect of our future supplies they would think it adviseable for me to order any part of the Forces drawn here to Albany in order to Decrease the Consumption of that necessary article, or any other measures which may tend to prevent a fatal Scarcity of it

¹ In Massachusetts Archives. Johnson's draft was destroyed in the Capitol fire.

I have directed Cap^t Wraxall to attend the Council of War with the last Returns of the Troops here, & those from the several Regimental Commissaries in order to assist the Deliberations of the Council of War on this important article.

3. Several officers are daily making applications to me for leave to return home, both upon acco^{ts} of their healths and several other Reasons, as I am apprehensive their leaving this army may be a discouragement to the Troops now here, at Fort Edward & at Albany. I would desire the opinion of this Council of War what they would advise me to do in this matter. I am, Sir,

Your humble Servant

W^m Johnson.

A true Copy

PETER WRAXALL Sec^{ry}

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

Copy¹

Camp at Lake George Saturday P. M. 18th October 1755.

Present	Major General Lyman Presid ^t All the Officers in this Encamp ^t Col Pomroy, Col Willard L ^t Col Ward L ^t Col Whitcomb absent by sickness Capt Eyre Engineer General Capt Glazier Adju ^t General Peter Wraxall Sec ^{ry}
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General Lyman directed the Secretary to read to this Council of War the annexed Letter² to him from General Johnson and the sundry papers therein mentioned and desir'd the Council of War would take the matters mentioned in General Johnsons letter into their consideration & give their opinion thereon

¹ Manuscript in Massachusetts Archives. Wraxall's draft was destroyed in the Capitol fire.

² Johnson to Lyman, October 18, 1755, *q.v.*

4. The President acquainted the Council he had recieved a message from the General whilst this Council was sitting that as the Colonels of the Massachusetts Reinforcements who arriv'd this Evening had acquainted him that they had a number of Carpenters in their Regiments he desir'd the Council of War to give their opinion whether the flatt bottomd Boats should be put forward that in case of proceeding further no delay might happen for the want of them.

The Council of War desir'd they might be adjourn'd till to morrow afternoon at 4 a Clock. and the Presid^t adjourn'd the Council accordingly.

Sunday 19th October 1755. P. M. The Council of War met according to the adjournment of yesterday

Present as Yesterday

Added to the Council L^t Col Ward, major Payson, major Whiting and major Richardson, arrived in Camp this afternoon. Col Harris absent.

Upon the first article this Council of War Vote to Refer the consideration of it to their next meeting for the sake of further Intelligence, and in the mean time advise the General to have the Battoes haul'd up examin'd & Repair'd.

Upon the second article the Council are unanimously of opinion that the consideration of it be referr'd to their next meeting

Upon the third article this Council of War are unanimously of Opinion that the Flatt Bottom'd Boats still continue in their present situation.

P Lyman

Peter Wraxall Sec^{ry}

A true Copy of the Original minutes

PETER WRAXALL Sec^{ry} to the General

Copy examin'd

THO^s. CLARKE Dp^{ty} Sec^{ry}

FROM OLIVER PARTRIDGE

*Copy*¹*Albany 18. Oct^r. 1755—*S^R.

The last week I was in Boston transacting my private Affairs when the Gentⁿ. of the Committee of War for the Government of the Massachusetts earnestly solicited me to take a Journey to Albany to Inquire into the state of their stores & if I found the Expedition against Crown point was like to go on, to exert myself to the Utmost to get the stores belonging to that Government Convey'd from Albany to Lake George for which also there is a Vote of the L^t Gov^r. & Council. The Com^{tée} of War have also wrote to Connecticut that they would exert themselves at this Critical Conjunction

I have this day waited Upon his Excellency Gov^r. Hardy who was pleased to Communicate to me the minutes of the Council of War at Lake George & Inform me that thereupon Col Ruggles and L^t. Col Pitkin were gone to their respective Governments for their advise & direction which I am almost morally certain will be (if Possible) to push the Expedition this season.

I also Informed Gov^r. Hardy of what I was charged with from the province of the Massa & had his advice to send an Express to your Honour to know whether it is possible to go thro with the Expedition this fall if the provissions & Stores were Spedily sent up. I must beg y^r Hon^{rs}. Spedy Answer to this Important Question that I may know how to Govern my Self in the Affair Committed to my Charge. And I think I may

¹ In Massachusetts Archives.

Assure your Hon^r. that the Stores &c on the part of the Massa
Shall not be wanting.—

I am &c

To MAJ^R GEN^L JOHNSON

INDORSED: Oliver Partridge¹ Letter to Maj^r. Gen^l. Johnson.
Copy.

GENERAL RETURN OF TROOPS

D.

*General Return of <the Troops at Lake> George y^e 19 & 20
Octo^r. 1755.*

Diffic ^t . since last Return.	Serg ^{ts} . Corp ^s . Serg ^{ts} . Corp ^s . Drums & Private Dr. & Private fit for Duty <absent & unfit> for Duty.	
26 — General Lymans Reg ^t	290	161
50 — Col. Goodrichs Reg ^t	267	125
53 — Col. Chaunceys (part of Reg ^t ..	358	79
66 — Col. Baglys	121	60
73 — Col. Pomroys	204	55
8 — Col. Willards 2 C ^{os} . at Albany	169	77
25 — Col. Cockcrofts 5 Comp ^s	285	27
Increased		
42 — Col. Harris's	302	40
Col. Dyers Reg ^t	360	
Cap ^t . Gage's Comp ^y . in Col.		
Willards Reg ^t	25	35
	2381	659

¹ Oliver Partridge was born in Hatfield, Mass., June 13, 1712, and died in Hadley, Mass., July 21, 1792. He was graduated at Yale College, practised law, was a delegate to the Albany Congress in 1754, and to the Stamp Act Congress of 1765 in New York City.

TO CAPTAIN DOOLITTLE

An order of October 20th from Johnson to Captain Doolittle to reconnoiter near the Carrying Place and Ticonderoga, following the preceding in the Johnson Calendar (See p. 59) was destroyed by fire.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.¹

Camp at Lake George Monday Evening 20 Octo^r. 1755.

At a Council of War summoned by Major General Johnson Pres^t.

Major General Lyman

all the Feild Officers at this Camp (except Col. Willard & Lieut Col. Whitcomb absent by Sickness and Major Richardson)

Capt. Eyre Chief Engineer &c

Capt. Glazier Adjut. General

Major Doughty of a Massachusetts Reg^t. at Albany

Peter Wraxall Secr^{ry}.

The General having summoned this Council of War & by reason of his ill state of Health being unable to attend it in Person desires Major General Lyman to Preside, & has directed Capt. Peter Wraxall his Secretary & Aid de Camp to lay before this Council of War the following Letters & Papers which are just now come to his hands by an Express from Albany.

1. A Letter from Sr. Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York now at Albany with the Minutes of a Council he called there
2. A Letter from Gov^r. Fitch of Connecticut

¹Original destroyed by fire. This is taken from the Hastings proof. A Record Office copy differs from it slightly in capitalization, punctuation, and some other unessentials. The copy in Public Record Office, C. O. 5.17., London, England was transmitted by Governor Hardy November 27th.

3. A Letter from Col. Oliver Partridge¹ from Albany who is there as an Agent from the Committee of War of the Province of Massachusetts Bay.
4. A Letter from Col. Peter Gilman of a New Hampshire Regt. of Reinforcements arrived at Albany.

Upon which the General desires they will in particular advise him what answer, they think proper for him to make to the following Paragraph in Col. Partridges Letter.

“I also informed Gov^r. Hardy of what I was charged with from the Province & had his advice to send an Express to your Honour, to know Whether it is possible to go thro with the Expedition this Fall if the Provisions & Stores were speedily sent up. I must beg Your Honours answer to this Important Question that I may know how to govern myself in the affairs committed to my charge & I think I may assure Your Honour that the Stores on the part of Massachusetts shall not be wanting.”

The Presid^t put the Question, whether it was advisable to proceed with the Expedition this Fall.

Voted in the Negative, for the following Reasons.

The Council adjourned to 5 oClock tomorrow Even^g.

21. 5 oClock met accord^g. to adjourn^t. pres^t. as yesterday.

Viz in the first place beg Leave to Refer to a report of y^e State of y^e Army as Unanimously Agreed to by a Councill of War the 11 & 12 Inst lately Transmitted to y^e Severall Governments for their Consideration with Respect to y^e Decrease of y^e Waggons Increase of y^e badness of The roads Difficulty of passing the rivers &c.

And now would farther Add that our Supplys Since have been & Still are Decreasing y^e rivers rais'd the roads worse & no forrage for horses Employ^d. in this Service.

2nd. Before it would be possible by y^e whole United force of all the Governments Concern'd to afford us a proper Supply

¹ Partridge to Johnson, October 18, 1755, *q. v.*

which we apprehend would not be possible till The Middle of November nor even then the Lake would be in Danger of Freizing or the Wind high & Bostirous which would Indanger the Loss of our Army by Water & Especially our Artillery & by a Small Scum of Ice prevent our Passage Or Cutt off all Manner of Supply of Provisions which might if our Army gone forward leave us in a Desperate Situation.

- 3 Our Soldiery in General by their Long Encampment here by reason of our Transports not arriving at Albany & the Difficulty of Transporting y^e Provisions here from thence being Thereby Subjected to Cold & Wet without any Lodging but the Ground but one blankett to Lye on & to cover & many none at all whereby & other Camp Dificulties Near one third of our Army are Sick & Unfitt for Duty their Spirits Exhausted their Strength & Vigor Enervated that if now a full Supply of Comfortable Lodging & Cloathing was here their Generall recovery Cannot be soon Expected.
- 4 Several Cannon necessary for the Expedition yet at Albany, Shells, Shot, Powder & upwards of Four hundred Battoes at Fort Edward yet to bring forward, which before this time could not be got here without Exposing the Army to suffer for want of Provisions & still to bring forward, will stop such a proportion of Carriage for Provisions as will be employed for that Service.
- 5 if our whole recruits were here arrived So many being Dismiss'd as Invalid & Worn out in y^e Service the present Sick here Necessary attendants for them with what must prudently be Left in garison att fort Edward & here would reduce our Army able to goe forward to not more than four thousand & by the best Intelligence from our Scouts who have had a Criticall View at Ticonderogo the Enemy amount to Three thousand & a Thousand more Cheifly Indians at an Advanc'd post forward both properly

Intrench'd & preparing for y^e best defence y^e attention of y^e Enemy now drawn off from y^e Eastward & Westward are able to afford you¹ a large Reinforcement as we are not able to make any preparations here without their Intelligence. But on y^e whole if our Severall Governments for whom we are Acting in whose Intrest lies our own in whose Service we are & whom we are willing to Serve to Death when Call'd if they Can remove those pricipall objections or if not as we progress our Selves Under their Instructions They Advise us to press forward Our own Lives we will Risque & Wilingly Submitt the Event. But to Conclude we with the Utmost Submission apprehend That to have had this Expedition Succeeded Our Recruits Should have been Sooner rais'd The provisions & all other Needfull preparations previously made & gone forward that they all arriving in fresh Spirits & recruiting Vigor Not Subjected to a long Dull & Sickly Encampment the Bane of New England Men would probably have Surmounted all opposition & by the blessing of Heaven had desir'd Success.

This Council of War desire the General will transmit these Minutes to the several Gov^{ts}. who have Troops on this Expedition.

Peter Wraxall

P LYMAN

Secr^{ry}.

The Council gave it as their Opinion the 18 p^{ds} now at Albany should not be imediately sent up but remain for further Orders.

PETER WRAXALL

Secr^{ry}.

¹ So in the Hastings proof. It should doubtless be ym. It is "them" in the Record Office copy.

TO THOMAS FITCH

Df.¹*Camp at Lake George 20 Octo^r. 1755*

SIR

I wrote Your Honour the 13 Inst by Lieut Col. Pitkin with sundry Papers therein mentioned to all w^{ch} I beg leave to refer.

Two days ago I called another Council of War, upon Intelligence from 5 French Deserters who came & surrendered themselves & say the Enemy have but 70 or 80 Men as an Advanced Guard on this side the Carrying Place & about 400 posted at Tionderogo & no Artillery. I proposed for their Consideration & Advice, whether I should Order a Party to dislodge the Enemy from one or both of these Posts. The Contrariety of Evidence between our own Scouts who have lately reconnoitred the Advanced Guard & w^{ch} two of them say are between 7 & 800. & another says near 1000 — and the former Intelligence from Tionderogo puzzled the Council of War & induced them to postpone their Opinion to another or the next Council of War, as in 3 or 4 days we expect Cap^t. Rodgers & small party from Crown Point where they are gone to reconnoitre & try for a Prisoner. I have this day sent out a Cap^t. a Lieu^t & 5 Men to observe with the utmost exactness possible the posture of the Enemys advanced Guard & Party at Tionderogo. I expect they will return in 3 or 4 days, when I propose to call another Council of War upon this Subject. in the mean time I have ordered all the Battoes we have here to be got in readiness for an Embarkation if adviseable.

By the Returns of the Commissaries yesterday We have but 6 days Bread in Camp, & by the late Rains the Roads & Waters make it scarce possible for Waggon to come along. Numbers break, the Provisions are damaged & the Horses so fatigued as not to be capable of a second Trip.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

I inclose Your Honour a Copy the Proceedings of a Court of Enquiry held upon one Ezekiel Pearce Cap^t. in General Lymans Reg^t. from these Proceedings & from a variety of other Circumstantial Evidence he appears to me to be a Dangerous, Pestilent & Turbulent Fellow, unworthy to serve his Country in any Shape, very improper to be kept in this Camp, & undeserving of any Rank in this Army. I shall therefore do what is in my power to mark his Character with the Infamy it Merits, w^{ch} is to order him out of this Encampment, to have no harbour at Fort Edward & not to be regarded as an officer by any of the Troops under my Command. His Mutinous Intentions deserve Death, but that is beyond my Author. I understand he was at the Head of a large Knot of worthless & Lawless Fellows who are a Disgrace to the Commissions they bear, but since his Confinement & Trial this Confederacy is broke & I cannot find them out. The Want of due Subordination the little respect w^{ch} is daily paid to my Orders, the Democratical (if you will allow me the term) Fabrick of this Army in general, have given me unspeakable perplexity & in my opinion must ever impede & render any great Undertakings extreamly hazardous, against an Enemy who have all the opposite Advantages however this when in my power shall not prevent my attempting any thing or every thing that tends to produce the great End of this Armament.

I am Sir Y^r Honours Most Obed^t hum Serv^t.

FROM BENJAMIN GREEN¹

Extract of a Letter² from the Hon^{ble}. Benjamin Green Esq^r. dated Halifax October 21st. 1755.

The Fleet sail'd on Sunday last, since which we have had constant bad weather. The night before the Fleet Sail'd We detected an horrid Scheme that had been laid here by some of the principal French officers, which wth a Plan of the Town & Bat-

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Person addressed unknown.

teries &c was done on exceeding thin paper, & in extream small writing & was folded & pressed as close as possible & put up in the middle of a Wash ball to go to Canada by way of Louisburg. It was to take this place this Winter, there was to be 2000 Canadeans, 1000 Indians & 500 Regulars & 50 of the Train with Cannon &c. They were to encamp first on the Wind mill hill &c, and when they had taken the Town they were to fire the Batteries upon our Ships. The Inhabitants were all to be Shutt up in the Church & Fire to be set to it, and they were to put all the Troops to the Sword without Quarter. You'l see what abandoned Villians they are and that they will not yet let us alone. The Admiral put it to the Chief person who was concern'd (the Captain of the Alcide¹) who denied it upon which the Admiral shew'd it to him in his own hand writing to his horrible confusion.

FROM PELETIAH BLISS

This paper was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 60 by a certificate, undated, from Peletiah Bliss and Amos Putnam, relating to the illness of Colonel Seth Pomeroy and need of his removal from camp; and a letter of October 21st to Johnson from Goldsbrow Banyar, at Albany, dealing with testimony of four French deserters, employment of Indians against French settlements, encampment of regulars and Colonel Ellison's illness. Destroyed by fire.

TO THOMAS FITCH

*Df.*²

Camp at Lake George 22. Octo^r. 1755.

SIR

I wrote your Honour the 20 Inst with a Copy of the Proceedings of a Court of Enquiry upon Ezekiel Pierce. Since w^{ch}. I am favoured with y^r. honours Letter bearing date the 13 Inst.

It was by the Advice of a Council of War, that my General

¹ The Chevalier Hocquart commanded the Alcide, captured by Admiral Boscawen.

² Original destroyed by fire.

Letter with an Account of the Engagements on the 8 Sep^r. wrote to all the Gov^{rs}. was sent by Express to Gov^r Phipps & w^{ch} I did not doubt but he would have communicated with all possible speed to the other Gov^{rs}.

I inclose your Honour a Copy of the Minutes of a Council of War I summoned the 20 Inst. this with those you have I doubt not before now received from Lieut Col. Pitkin, will give you an ample View of our present Situation & I presume convince you, if not of the impossibility, of the inexpediency of our proceeding for some Weeks. There is an Article not mentioned by the Council of War, w^{ch} I think I have good Grounds for believing. It is a general indisposition amongst the Troops to proceed further, arising from the severity of the Season, a surfeit of the Military Life its fatigues & hardships, & an extreme fond inclination of returning to their more comfortable homes & the endearments of Family ties.

Your Honour may depend that your just Quota of Troops to be left in Garrison shall be observed.

As to the Fort building here, whatever insinuations have been made to your Honour to the contrary, I am convinced the ground is the most Advantageous of any w^{ch} could be chosen here & has not within 370 paces of it any rising Ground w^{ch} Commands it, and that distance is not within Battery in Breach.¹ This Fort has born & continues to bear the Malignant Malice of some, for w^{ch} I can find no other reason than Ignorance & Obstinacy.

Your Honours Intimations so politely given on the Subject, I receive with a most grateful respect, my Opinions of your Candor & Judgment is such that I shall always in every Instance pay the greatest regard to your Sentiments & advice.

I am with great Esteem

Sir

Your Honours Most Obed^t. hum Serv^t.

We have not above 4 days bread in Camp.

To the Honourable GOVERNOR FITCH

¹ Reach?

TO PETER GILMAN

*Df. S.¹**Camp at Lake George 22 Octo^r 1755*

SIR

I sent down Orders some time ago to the Commanding Officers of all the Reinforcements at Albany that their Troops were to remain there till further Orders except such Guards & Convoys as might be absolutely necessary for the Service & those to be as few as Prudence wou'd permit this was done upon the scarcity of Bread amongst us & the danger at this Season of the year of a due Supply failing. We have not now above if we have 4 days supply of Bread in Camp. Till you can send up some Bread in particular & other Stores in general for your Reg^t. you must remain at Albany & assist in making the Roads or other Matters relative to the Service. The Guards & Convoys hither were to be taken by proportionable Detachments from the Massachusetts & Rhode Island Reinforcements. have you waited on Sr. Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York at Albany if not I desire you will do it, & apply to him if you should want any Advice or assistance in w^{ch} the good of the Service is concerned

I am &c

W. J.

To COL. PETER GILMAN

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.¹**Camp at Lake George 22 October 1755*

SIR

I am favoured with Your Excellencys Three Letters bearing dates the 11. 15 & 18 Inst.

The French Deserter came hither when my pain was so great that I was incapable of attending to Business. Gen^l. Lyman sent

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

him to Fort Edward & I understood in order to be forwarded to your Excellency. As to the officers not fulfilling his orders or acting in the absurd manner your Excellency mentions, I am sorry for tho not surprized at it, my daily experience has afforded many & grosser instances of Disobedience & Ignorance, & beyond my power either duly to punish or to prevent.

The 14 Inst I gave Orders to the Commandg. officer at Fort Edward to send under a secure Guard 4 other Deserters to your Excellency. I hope that has been more duly complied with than the above Instance.

I judge our men fit for duty now here (for all the Returns tho ordered the 20 are not come in) may amount to near 4000 — out of w^{ch}. no more than 3. 4 & 500 at most have been at work at the Fort for some days past, tho 700 was agreed to by the Council of War to work daily there when we were not above 2600. fit for duty. I have given repeated orders I have sent the most serious & pressing messages, some few Colonels have themselves pressed an attention to this important article, yet so it is. I have issued out this Morning a fresh order in the most peremptory manner for 1/3 of each Reg^t. in camp to go upon the Works. I am determined if this order is disobeyed by only one two Col^s. to put them under arrest, if too general I shall be almost tempted to leave the Command of the Army to Gen^l. Lyman & make a Remonstrance upon it. Gen^l. Lyman has always been a great Enemy to this Fort & dos every thing in his Power to throw cold water upon it. Says tis only beneficial to New York, will be disapproved by the other Gov^{ts}. who will not consent to Garrison it &c.

Most of the Carpenters in the 3 Massachusetts Reg^{ts}. of Reinforcements are employed in building Hutts & Houses for their Men & officers, so that hitherto we have found little profit from them.

I am thankful to Your Excellency for the marks of respect you have paid to the Memory of Capt McGinnis. The young man now Capt of the Company I have little knowledge of, they tell me he is a sober Modest Man of good Spirit.

As to Cap^t. Morris's Acc^t. of the Indians I have nothing of, from, or seen any of them & should such a number come have no Provisions for them. I have 6 or 7. here who do not choose to go out on the Scout & are of no Service at present.

I am very glad y^r. Excellency sent up Dr. Ascough to the Wounded Indians, it will greatly please them.

The 18 I called a Council of War upon the Intelligence from the 5 French Deserters who deliv^d. themselves to the Guard going to Fort Edward & the further Examination of Blanchard one of them whom I sent for hither, & who says their Advanced Guard is ab^t. 7 or 8 Miles on this side Tionderoga & consists of 70 or 80 Men & that they have about 400 at Tionderoga & the rest of the Army at Crown Point. No Artillery at Tionderoga but a breast work. I proposed to them whether they would advise a Party to be sent against one or both of these Places, & how many. They adjourned for their answer to the 19. when they postponed their opinion till we got further Intelligence. They were so puzzled with the absolute contradiction between, the Information of these Deserters & our several Scouts that they judged necessary to suspend their judgments till more Intelligence could be got. The next day I sent out a Cap^t. a Lieu^t. & 5 Men as a reconnoitering Party to the Advanced Posts & Tionderoga with written orders to take the most exact view they could. They are not yet returned. They advised in the meantime that the Battoes here should be hauled up for caulking. I have ordercd it. I proposed also to them to go on with the flat bottomed Boats. They unanimously gave their opinion that they should continue in their present Situation.

I have wrote Cap^t. Conine to withdraw his men within the Stockades. Could not some of the regular Troops under well chosen officers garrison his Majestys Indian Forts & save the Crown the Expence of these additional ones.

The Baron Diskau told me when he was here that if any one was to be sent to Crown Point he did not believe they would be suffered to leave it & I do not know how or which way I can contrive to convey his Letters.

Your Excellencys favour of the 18 Inst. with the Minutes of Council I laid before a Council of War together with some other Letters, the Evening I rec^d it. The Minutes of that Council I inclose your Excellency & beg leave to refer you thereto. I inclose you also Cap^t. Rodgerss, Lieu^t Butterfield & Ensign Pitmans¹ Intelligence from Tionderoga. They arrived last night with the Scalp. When the other Scouts come in from Tionderogo I may call another Council of War to repropose an Attack that way, but I fancy it will not pass. In short The men in general are so tired with a camp life & so homesick that I verily believe any great Number would not march if called upon. The sick increase, we bury 12 & 15 as I have been informed some times in a day. I dont suppose we have more than 5 ds. bread now in camp.

I referred Co^l. Partridge to y^r. Excellency, & I beg you will please to let him have a copy of the above Minutes, unless General Shirley should be come to Albany to whom I also write.

By venturing out of my Tent, I believe I catched cold, & my pain in the ear is returned again, & I had not a wink of Sleep last night. I am most respectfully Sir Your Excellencys Most Obed^t humble

INDORSED: Genl^s. Letter to S^r. Charles
Hardy 22 Octo^r.

TO SPENCER PHIPS

L. S.²

Camp at Lake George 22 October 1755

SIR

My last to Your Honour was the 13 Instant to be deliver'd or forwarded by Colonel Ruggles.

Since which I am favoured with Yours of the 29 Sep^r.. and 6 Ins^t.. the former by Col. Gridly, who arrived here a few days

¹ Israel Putnam, not Ensign Timothy Putnam.

² In Massachusetts Archives. Johnson's draft was destroyed by fire.

ago. He seems to deserve the Character you give him, and if all the Officers of his Rank in this Army were equal to him I should have thought myself very happy in my Station and have flattered myself with Prospects equivalent to the hopes and expectations of the Governments. I propose Col. Gridley to Command at Fort Edward and inspect the finishing the Works there.

Your favour of the 6 Inst.. with the papers therein, I laid before a Council of War the Copy of whose Minutes. I transmit you herewith. A few days ago five french Deserters fell in with & surrendered themselves to a Guard of ours Marching to Fort Edward I sent for the most Intelligent of them and Examined him. He said they were of the Advanced Guard 5 or 6 Miles on this Side the Carrying Place. That between 70 and 80 Men were kept there, and between 4 and 500 at Ticonderogo. The rest of the Army at Crown Point. This Account so strangely contradicts the repeated Accounts from our own Scouts, that the Council of War postponed giving any Opinion on my Proposal till we got further Intelligence. Cap^t. Rogers and two other Officers with a Scout were then out for Crown Point I sent the next Morning a Cap^t. a Lieu^t. and 5 picked Men with written Instructions to take the nearest and most exact View they possibly could of the posture of the Enemy at Ticonderogo and their advanced Post. When they return I shall probably renew my proposal to the Council of War. The Battoes are turned up and drying for Caulking.

I inclose Your Honour the Minutes of a Council of War I summoned the 20 Ins^t. I cannot possibly without delaying the Express who waits to return to Col. Partridge transmit Copies of these Minutes to the Governours of New Hampshire and Rhode Island I must therefore beg Your Honour will order them to be Copied and sent.

Cap^t. Rogers and 2 other Officers returned last Night from Crown Point, they Scalped a French Man who would not surrender in sight of the Fort. The Hill near the Fort is they say

For the Lond: Mag:.



*S^r William Johnson Bart^t
Major General of the English Forces
in North America.*

Printed for R. Baldwin in Peter Street Row 1750.

fortified. They had a View of Ticonderogo in their return and of the Advanced Post. They Assert that to their best Judgments there were at least 2000 Men at the former and 1000 at the latter.

Our Sick and unfit for duty increase, the Weather Cold and Wet which I am afraid will increase their Number. We have not more than 4 days Bread at present in Camp. the Roads almost impassible, the River not fordible. I have ordered Parties to mend the Road clear from Albany thither, but I fear the nature of them is such as will elude Art if much Rain comes. I dread the Consequence and our Fort goes on Slowly. I am Sir

Your Honours Most Obedt.. Servt..

W^m. JOHNSON

I inclose this open to

Col. Partridge to seal

and forward.

To The Honourable

GOVERNOUR PHIPPS.

FROM ROBERT ROGERS AND OTHERS

A. L. S.¹

Camp at Lake George 22 Octor 1755

On the fourteenth Day of October I Embarked in a Burch Canoe at the Camps on the South End of Lake George With Four Men Beside My Self & Sailed twenty five Miles & Landed on the west side of the Lake then Traveled by Land and on the Eighteenth Day I arived on the Mountain on the West Side of Crown point there I lay that Night & all the Next Day and Observed Ambusers Built upon the Mount about Thirty Rods To the Southwest of Crown point fort in the Evening went Down

¹ Original destroyed by fire. Printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:269-70; Q, 4:175. The following is from the Hastings proof. It varies from the copy in the *Doc. Hist.* in capitalization and punctuation.

To the Houses that was built upon the lake to the South of Crown point & Went into a barn that was well fill'd with wheat & Left three Men & proceeded with one Man To make further Discoverys at the fort and found a Good place To ambush within Sixty Rods of the fort & Imediatly went back & took our partners & Ambush'd at the proper place we had found & there we lay Till about Ten of the Clock & Observed Several Canoes passing up & Down the lake & Sundry Men that Went out To work about their Secular affairs & Judged the whole that was in the fort To be about five Hundred at length a french Man Came out of the fort Towards us without his Gun & Came within fifteen Rods of where we lay then I with another Man Run Up to him In order to Captivate him But he Refused To Take Quarter So we kill'd him and Took of his Scalp in plain Sight of the fort then Run and in plain view about Twenty Rods & made our Escape. the Same Night we Came Right West of Tianarago about three Miles & upon a Mountain in plain Sight of their fort & See large Incampments Round it & heard a Vast Number of Smal arms fired Judged there To be Two Thousand Men at Tianarago & on the Twenty first Day Got To Our Canoes about Eight of the Clock in the Morning & found all Safe & about Nine of the Clock in the Evening arived all well at our Encampments where we Set out.

The above account is the Cheif Discovery that we Made at Crown point & Tianaragoe.

ROBT RODGERS ¹

JONATHAN BUTERFEILD

ISRAEL PUTNAM

To the Honourable WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r Commander in
Cheif of the Forces at Lake George this presented By Your
Honours Most Humble Serv^t

INDORSED: Cap^t Rodgers & C^{os} Acc^t of Scout to Crown Point
rec'd 22 Octo^r 1755

¹ He varies in spelling his own name.

TO OLIVER PARTRIDGE

The above letter was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 60 by Johnson's letter of October 22d, to Oliver Partridge on council of war, despatches and want of provisions. It was destroyed by fire.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 22. Octor. 1755.

SIR

My last to your Excellency was the 10 Inst with sundry papers to w^{ch}. I beg leave to refer.

The Spies I sent to Tionderoga returned with an Account that they found the Enemys out Guards so alert that way, that they did not dare venture to come near enough to make any distinct Discoveries. They say they had a very clear view of the advanced party who are near 2 miles on this side the Carrying Place. They say there were 2 Encamp^t. on each side of the Lake amount^g. to about 7 or 800 French & Indians, one of them (for they went seperately) say to 1000. These were 3 Commission officers 2 of them Captains. This Acc^t. confirms Cap^t. Rodgers w^{ch}. I transmitted to y^r. Excellency.

Since these People came in, 5 French Deserters delivered themselves up to a Guard of ours marching to Fort Edward who carried them thither. They came from the advanced Guard posted when they left it, about 5 miles from Tionderoga, but say it was to be advanced the next day 2 miles nearer this way. That it consists of between 70 & 80 men, that there are between 3 & 400 at Tionderoga, no Artillery or Fort, only a Breast work thrown up. That the rest of the Army were at Crown Point.

Upon this I called a Council of War & proposed for their opinion whether I should send a Party either to endeavour to cut off this advanced Guard only or a number suff^t. to make an attack upon Tionderoga.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

The Council finding such an unaccountable Opposite between this Intelligence, & those we have had from our own Scouts, agreed to postpone their opinion, till some further Intelligence could be obtained. The next day I sent out a Cap^t. a Lieu^t. & 5 Men with written Instructions to take the nearest & most distinct View possible of the Enemy at these Posts. They are not yet returned. Last night Cap^t. Rodgers & two more officers arrived from Crown Point. They went with two Men more in their Company & have bro^t. a Frenchmans Scalp, a Copy of their report I inclose your Excellency. Also Copy of the Minutes of a Council of War the 11 & 12 Inst. Copies of w^{ch}. Col. Ruggles carried to Boston & Col. Pitkin to Connecticut. I should have transmitted them to Your Excellency before but I was advised from Albany that you were on your way down & am told this will probably meet you arrived there.

I also inclose Your Excellency the Minutes of a Council of War held the 20 Inst.

Upon the best calculation I can make for I cannot get the Returns all in, There are at this place about 4500 Men fit for Duty, ab^t. 800 given in Sick & unfit for Duty. And not above 5 days bread in Camp. Our Fort here goes on slowly. I do all in my power to push it. Directions & Orders for finishing Fort Edward are given.

I am Sir

Your Excellencys Most obd^t. hum. Serv^t.

INDORSED: General's Letter to
Gen^l. Shirley Octobr. 22 1755.

TO SYBRANT G. VAN SCHAICK

Df. S.¹

Camp at Lake George, 22 Octo^r. 1755.

SIR

I have yours of the 18 Inst. If sending the Shot from the half Moon will take up Waggon^s w^{ch} would otherwise be bringing Bread, pray speak to Sr. Charles & I believe he will withdraw his Order.

The 18 pounders are to remain at Albany till further Orders I am

Sir

Your hum Serv^t.

W. J.

TO SYBR^T. G. V. SCHAICK Esq^r.

BIGOT TO THE FRENCH MINISTER²

Quebec 23 Octobre 1755.

Lettre de M. L'Intendant Bigot au Ministre

MONSEIGNEUR,

Un habitant me remit il y a quelques jours un cahier de registre écrit en Anglais qu'il avait trouvé sur le champ de bataille après l'action qui s'est passé au Fort Duquesne, il ne s'y est trouvé d'intéressant que deux minutes des instructions que le Général Braddock avait donné au Colonel Johnson et au Colonel Shirley, je les ai fait traduire par M. Perthius, Con^e au conseil supérieur et j'ai l'honneur de vous en adresser cy-joint les copies.

Les instructions du Colonel Shirley confirment bien le projet des Anglais de s'emparer de Niagara et de toute la partie de terre qui borde au sud le Lac Ontario, sous prétexte de protéger les cinq nations, et les faire rentrer dans leurs anciennes possessions,

¹Original destroyed by fire.

²In Public Archives of Canada, Correspondances Officielles, v. 11, 1755. F. 300.

que les Anglais prétendent que nous leur avons enlevé. Vous y remarquerez, Monseigneur, que ce Colonel est autorisé à tirer sur le Trésor du Roi d'Angleterre les sommes nécessaires pour ses opérations, ce qui prouve que ce prince fait la grande partie des dépenses pour l'exécution des projets qu'il a formé contre le Canada.

J'ai l'honneur d'être avec un profond respect.

Monseigneur

Votre &c

BIGOT.

Joint à la Lettre de M. Bigot du 23 novembre¹ 1755.

Instructions²

du Général Braddock au Colonel Johnson commandant un corps de 5. à 600 hommes destiné pour l'attaque du fort St Frederic, campés au Lac St Sacrement et aux environs.

Vous ferés voir aux Sauvages des six nations un acte que vous remettra le Colonel Shirley et vous leur ferés en mon nom la lecture des Instructions suivantes.

Comme il paroît par un traité fait à Orange par les cinq nations alors et Johnnans Lieutenant Gouverneur de New York, par lequel les dittes cinq Nations remirent tous les pais de chasse de castor qu'ils avoient conquis il y avoit alors huit ans, sous la protection du Roy d'Angleterre qui devoit leur en garantir la possession pour eux et pour leur usage, et qu'il paroît aussy par un acte passé en 1726 entre les trois nations Goyongouins, Sonontouans, Oneyonts et le Gouverneur alors de New York qu'ils avoient remis toutes les terres consistant en 60 mille à prendre des Lacs en allant dans les terres, en començant par un crique que l'on appelle ou Baye de Niaouenre* Canahogue sur

* ou Baye de Niaouanré.

¹ This evidently should be "Octobre."

² In Collection Moreau de St Mery. 1750-1756. F. 202, 12:252.

le Lac de Choueguin Canahogue† sur tout le long dudit Lac et tout le long du détroit depuis le dit Lac jusqu'à la chute de Niagara et tout le long du Détroit depuis ledit Lac jusqu'à la chute de Niagara¹ et tout le long du lac Ontario jusqu'au crique nommé Sodoms qui appartient aux Sinnakeens et depuis Sodoms jusqu'à la montagne appelé Tegerhunekserade‡ qui appartient aux Cayouges et depuis Tegerhunekserade jusqu'au crique qu'on nomme Cayhunghage§ qui appartient aux Onondages** Toules² les dites terres estant de 60 mille anglois, toutes lesquelles terres depuis les susdits Lacs ou Rivieres allant directement en profondeur dans le pays renferment tous les villages des dites trois Nations avec toutes les Rivieres, Criques et Lacs qui se trouvent dans les dites limites aux conditions d'estre protégés et deffendus par Sa Majesté et ses successeurs pour toujours et conservés pour l'usage des dites trois Nations leurs enfans et leurs successeurs; Et comme il paroît que les François de temps à autres par fraude et par violence ont construit de bons forts dans les limites des terres susdites en contravention des conventions portées audit contract et traité, vous assurerés en mon nom les dites nations que je suis venu de la part et au nom de Sa Majesté pour detruire tous les dits forts et pour en batir qui puissent protéger les dites terres et les leur assurer à eux et à leurs successeurs pour toujours conformément au but et à l'esprit du traité Et en conséquence sommés les de lever la hache et de venir prendre possession de leurs propres terres.

Je soussigné Conseiller au Conseil Superieur certifie avoir traduit de l'anglois en françois la piece cy dessus et des autres

† Lac Ontario.

‡ Montagne qui doit estre entre la Baye des Goyogouins et Chouéguin.
§ ou La Famine.

** ou Onontagués.

¹ The repetition here occurs in the original.

² "Toutes" was probably written.

parts, dont la minute a esté déposée au Secretariat de Monsieur l'Intendant de la Nouvelle France.

A Québec le 20 octobre 1755.

signé: PERTHIUS.

Nous Intendant de la Nouvelle France

Certifions que nous avons entendu dire à tous les anglois qui sont venus en ce pais que M. Perthius, Conseiller au Conseil Superieur, parloit tres bien la langue angloise et qu'il la traduisoit parfaitement.

Fait à Quebec le 22 octobre 1755.

Translation

Quebec, 23d October, 1755

Letter of Intendant Bigot to the Minister

MY LORD:

Some days ago a Canadian delivered to me a minutebook written in English which he had found on the battle field after the action which occurred at Fort Duquesne. Nothing of interest is found in it except two drafts of instructions which General Braddock had given to Colonel Johnson and to Colonel Shirley. I have had them translated by M. Perthius, counselor to the superior council, and I have the honor to transmit to you the copies, hereto attached.

Colonel Shirley's instructions well confirm the scheme of the English to seize Niagara and all the portion of land along the southern shore of Lake Ontario, under the pretense of protecting the Five Nations, and reestablishing them in their ancient possessions, which the English pretend that we have taken from them. \ You will observe in these instructions, my Lord, that this colonel is authorized to draw on the treasury of the King of England for the sums necessary for his operations, which proves that

that prince bears the greater part of the expenses for the execution of the plans which he has formed against Canada.

I have the honor to be with profound respect.//

My Lord

Yours etc.

BIGOT

Attached to M. Bigot's letter of November 23, 1755

Instructions

of General Braddock to Colonel Johnson, commander of a force of 500 to 600 men intended for the attack on Fort St Frederic, encamped at Lake St Sacrement and in the vicinity.

You will show to the Indians of the Six Nations a deed which Colonel Shirley will deliver to you and you will have the following instructions read to them in my name.

As it appears by a treaty made at Albany by the then Five Nations and John Nanfan,¹ Lieutenant Governor of New York, by which the said Five Nations transferred all the beaver hunting grounds, which they had conquered eight² years before that time, to the protection of the King of England, who was to guarantee to them their possession and use, and as it appears also by a deed executed in 1726 between the three nations, Cayugas, Senecas, Onondagas, and the then Governor of New York, that they had assigned all the lands for sixty miles in breadth, taken from the lakes into the country, beginning at a creek which is called either Bay of Niaouenre* Canahogue on the Lake of Choueguin Canahogue,† running the whole length of said lake and of the strait from the said lake to the falls of Niagara and along Lake Ontario to the creek named

¹ The triple error of the interpreter which changed John Nanfan to Johnnans apparently arose in one particular from his mistaking the f for the long s common at that period.

² Eight in the French. "Four Score" in the English deed of 1701; eighty in the English deed of 1726, See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:908, and 5:800.

Sodoms,¹ which belongs to the Senecas, and from Sodoms to the mountain called Tegerhunekserade,‡ which belongs to the Cayugas, and from Tegerhunekserade to the creek which is named Cayhunhage,§ which belongs to the Onondagas,** all the said land being of the breadth of 60 English miles, all of which lands from the aforesaid lakes or rivers running in depth directly into the country, inclosing all the villages of the said three nations with all the rivers, creeks and lakes which are found within the said limits, on the conditions of being protected and defended by his Majesty and his successors forever and preserved for the use of the said three nations, their children and their successors; and as it appears that the French from time to time by fraud and by violence have constructed strong forts within the limits of the aforesaid lands in contravention of the agreements expressed in the said contract and treaty, you will assure the said nations in my name that I have come on the part and in the name of his Majesty to destroy all the said forts and to build some which will suffice to protect the said lands and insure them to them and their successors forever agreeably to the object and the spirit of the treaty. And, for this purpose, summon them to take up the hatchet and to come and take possession of their own lands.

I the undersigned, counselor to the superior council, certify that I have translated from the English into French the paper attached to this and other portions, the draft of which has been deposited in the secretariate of the Intendant of New France.

At Quebec, the 20th of October, 1755

signed: PERTHIUS.

We, the Intendant of New France,

Certify that we have heard it said by all the English who have come into this country that M. Perthius, Counselor to the

¹ "Usually Identified with Sodus," W. M. Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 242.

Superior Council, spoke the English language very well and that he translated it perfectly.

Done at Quebec the 22d of October, 1755.

FROM JAMES BROWN

Peletiah Bliss and Timothy Warner's certificate of the 23d of Lieutenant James Tracy's sickness, with General Lyman's permit to go home, and a letter of the 23d from James Brown, of Bridge Hampton, L. I., announcing to Johnson a present of 12 cattle from his parishioners and declaring a warm interest in the success of the expedition, are in the Johnson Calendar, p. 61. These were destroyed by fire.

* Or Bay of Niaouanré.¹

† Lake Ontario.²

‡ Mountain which should be between the Bay of the Cayugas and Oswego.³

§ Or La Famine.⁴

** Or Onontaguès.

¹ A name which Beauchamp appropriates to Chaumont bay, on Lake Ontario, *Aboriginal Place Names*, p. 96.

² The above note is incorrect. The deed of 1701 does say "the lake of Swege," and the deed of 1726 says "Lake Osweego"; but Lake Osweego and Sweege are early names for Lake Erie.—Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names*, p. 66, 67, 132, 171. The line described in the deed of trust began at Canahogue (Cuyahoga river), where it empties into Lake Erie, and followed that lake eastward. If we must suppose that this fact was known to Perthius, it is still apparent that his interpretation of Choueguén Canahogue reveals confusion of thought.

³ "Tegerhunkserode, a hill east of Sodus bay and belonging to the Cayugas in 1758. It was called Tegerhunkseroda in 1726."—Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names*, p. 242.

⁴ Salmon river.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

D.¹*Camp at Lake George. 24 Octo^r. 1755.*

Instructions For Col. Gridley

1.

You are to march from hence with two Companies of the Regt under your Command, to Fort Edward & take on you the Command of that Garrison.

2.

You are to direct & inspect the compleating of the Works there agreeable to the Plan & Directions W^{ch} Capt. Ayre left with Major Fitch.

3.

You are order out Parties of 50 or 100 men according to the Number of the Tools w^{ch} can be spared to mend & repair the Road & Bridges between said Fort & Seraghtoga, and order a Bridge for Waggons to be made as soon as possible over a certain Creek about 8 or 9 miles from the sd Fort. The road Parties are to stay out 4 whole days at work & to be relieved the 5th you will exert your self to have this very necessary piece of Duty Diligently & faithfully performed.

4.

Major Hoare having made a complaint to me that the late vacancies in Col. Ruggles's Reg^t. are not filled up according to Seniority, you are to enquire into the same, & if Lieut. Col. Gilbert sent me an undue list of the officers to be promoted You are to order him into Confinement, & make me a distinct Report thereon. You are also to order a Court of Enquiry upon a certain Pris^r. of said Reg^t. who by discharging his Gun killed & wounded some Soldiers there & send me the proceedings of the same.

¹ In Ayer Collection, Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.

5.

You will keep a Guard at the Bridge beyond the Fort, to stop & secure Deserters or such as leave this Army without furlough or Discharge & to search Waggon, that they do not carry off any of the Stores or other Property belonging to the Public & to turn such back as do not when they are empty bring stones for building the chimneys at Fort Edward, & send an Acct of their names to the Commissaries at Albany in whose Service they are employed. You will also keep out small Scouting Parties daily & nightly for 3 or 4 miles round to prevent any Surprize or Insult from the Enemy.

6.

You are to send me a General Return of your Garrison every Monday, & to stop as little Bread or flour as you prudently can.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 24. October 1755.

SIR

I wrote Your Excellency the 22. with sundry Papers to w^{ch} I beg leave to refer you.

I find a large Scow is very much wanted to ferry the Waggon & Horses across the River at Seraghtoga Cap^t. Webster our head carpenter is extreemly ill with a Flux w^{ch} is a great Draw-back upon the Works here. There is such a general disinclination to Labour amongst the Troops here & particularly with regard to the Fort, so much yet to be done, & the time for doing it so short, that I cannot think it by any means adviseable to send carpenters away to make this Scow and indeed I apprehend we have none here who are proper Judges of its Construction. I beg therefore Your Excellency will acquaint the Provincial Companies at Albany that they must hire some Workmen there who

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

understand this Matter to build a proper Scow with all possible Dispatch and I would have a Company of the Massachusetts Reinforcements at Albany with an active careful Captain posted at the East side of the River at Seraghtogo where there is good Quarters for them in order to assist the Waggon & carry on any further Service to w^{ch} they may be ordered.

Col. Gridley is to march from hence to morrow with Two Companys of his Reg^t. to take the Command of Fort Edward & to expedite the Completion of that Fort, as also to have the Road from thence to Seraghtoga thoroughly repaired & Mended, w^{ch}. I understand is not done according to my Orders, tho Men have been constantly upon it.

Mr. Butler arrived here Two Nights ago with about 9 or 10 Mohock Indians. The rest who set out with him, were met by a Party who were returning from hence homewards, they disaudded them from proceeding & told them a heap of idle Falshoods, & by this Means drew all except the above Number away with them. These came to me this Morning & told me that as we were not ready to go forwards they were desirous also of returning home, that they came chiefly to pay me a Visit & see how I did & would now go & give their Bretheren an account & that when I was ready to go & sent them word both their Castles would come to a Man. They are gone & I have now but four Indians with me. I find the Indians are not inclined to go out on the Scout either by themselves or in Company with our People. They seem to be infected with the Epidemical Disease of our Troops, Home Sickness, & I fear with regard to both, it is incurable for this Season.

To send the Indians scalping among the Inhabitants of Canada & destroying their out Settlements, is a work w^{ch} will require previous Ceremonies & a more formal Application than can be made here. I not only think this point may be compassed, but some more Consequential Measures possible to be effected, in order to distress the French Indian Interest, but this will require time, some artful Managment, & a Diligent Application.

Col. Cockcroft Informs me he has recommended One Mr. Richardson an Adjutant at present in one of the Massachusetts Regts to y^r. Excellency for a Vacant Lieutenancy in his Reg^t. he has distinguished himself very advantageously, & had it been in my power to have promoted him to a Captain in his own Reg^t. it should have been done.

Will your Excellency please to direct the Inclosed Letter for Gov^r. Lawrence to be forwarded I have received a very polite one from him

To His Excellency S^R. CHARLES HARDY

FROM THOMAS GILBERT

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gilbert's receipt, given at Fort Edward, for cannon, dated October 24th, following this in the Johnson Calendar, p. 61 was destroyed by fire.

TO CHARLES LAWRENCE

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 24 October 1755.

SIR

Last Night I was honoured with your favour of the 25 past.

Your approbation of the Behaviour of the Troops under my Command in the late happy repulse given the Enemy, I have communicated to several of the principal officers here, who join with me in esteeming it amongst the most honourable consequences of the day; and I beg you will accept of our joint Gratitude for the same.

Your favouring me with a Letter on this occasion & your very polite & friendly sentiments in my favour therein, gives me all those pleasing sensibilities, w^{ch}. worthy & amiable Characters have the distinguishing Privilege of imparting.

I wish our progress since the late action had been such as entitled us to your further notice, but our great distance from

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Albany, the Disappointm^t. of a suff^t. number of Waggon^s, to supply us with the requisite Stores & Provisions for proceeding, the late arrival of the Reinforcements, the great increase of sickness in our Camp, the unfavourableness of the Season, the want of warm cloathing & proper Bedding for the Men. These things have not only been insuperable Obstacles to our proceeding, but dejected our Mens Spirits & given them a much greater keenness for return^g. home than going forwards. We have not now more than 2 days Bread in Camp, the Roads so Bad & the water so high, that the supplying us is not only extreamly Difficult, but I dread will be fatally slow.

I am building a respectable Fort here to maintain His Majestys possession of this important Pass, the work goes on slowly, the men are much disinclined to Labour & I am very anxious lest it should not be timely compleated. I have had another Built at the Carrying Place ab^t. 18 Miles nearer Albany from hence at another considerable Pass, that also is uncompleated. However both these Works are going on & tho not so briskly as I would wish, yet I hope will be timely finished so as to receive Garisons this Winter. And with this I am apprehensive our present Campaign will end, unless the Troops should be kept up for a Winter Expedition.

Tho the Ball cannot be extracted I feel no pain or inconveniency from my Wound, but I have been confined to my Tent for near a fortnight by a violent & painful inflammation in the side of my head, tis now better & hope to get out of Confinement in a day or two.

May Health, honour & Success continue to attend you. I am with great respect Sir

Your obliged & Obed^t. Serv^t.

Cap^t. Wraxall my only Aid de Camp & Sec^{ry}. begs you will present his comp^{ts}. to Admiral Boscawen to whom he was formerly well known in Jamaica.

To the Honourable

CHARLES LAWRENCE, Esq^r. &c.

FROM THOMAS GILBERT ET AL

This letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar (See p. 61) by an order of the 24th, issued by Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gilbert for the arrest of Abraham Loucket, Surgeon Thomas Williams's certificate, dated the 25th, of the sickness of Ebenezer Moulton, Oliver Cole and Sergeant Hill; proceedings, dated the 26th, in the trial of Abraham Loucket by court martial; Captain Doolittle's report of scouting to Crown Point and Ticonderoga, dated the 26th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:270-71; Q, 4:175-76); Stephen Miller's report as field officer of the day, dated the 27th; Jelles Fonda and Philip Lansing's return of bateaux, undated; and minutes, dated the 27th, of a court of inquiry convicting Lieutenant Asa Noble, charged with mutiny and plunder. These papers were destroyed by fire.

FROM SPENCER PHIPS¹

L. S.

*Boston Oct. 25. 1755*S^r

The several Letters which Col^o. Ruggles was charged with have been forwarded to me from *Holden*,² but Col^o. Ruggles himself has not yet been in Town. The Gen^l. Assembly met here the 22^d. Instant, & are still sitting, & seem to be under great Concern, least the Expedition to Crown Point should not be push'd forward now you have had such large Reinforcements of Men from the several Colonies concerned in it: And I herewith send you a Vote pass'd this Day by the two Houses, which will show you how much they have the thing at Heart, And I must press it upon you not to dismiss any Man till you hear further from Me And that you would in the mean time be making all the necessary Preparations as tho it was a thing determined to proceed with all possible Dispatch. I am Sir,

Your humble Servant

S. Phips

Hon^{ble}. W^m. JOHNSON Esq^r.

¹ In Massachusetts Archives. Not an autograph.

² Underscored in copy. Hardwick is written in the margin. Hardwick was Ruggles's home.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

Albany, 27 Oct. 1755.

DEAR SIR

I am favoured with yours of the 23^d. and really partake in the Concern your present Situation gives me. I have suspected it since a few days after my Arrival, but knew it was irremediable. Tho believe me, I do not think this adds much to the merits of your C: of W-r and the Army, who seem to me to have had no inclination to proceed since the Battle Otherways they would have finish'd their Scows & prepared every thing else for a March in Case Provisions had arrived, which they could not be certain would fail them. Instead of this, what have they done. Your Scows and Fort at the Lake too might have been finish'd by this time, had your New England Men been actuated by that noble Spirit they have amused the world with so long. I may be in an Error but dont believe a single Syllable of Rogers's Information. The Lives of the Deserters are in our Power, who might be convinced their Lives would have paid for any Misfortune the Consequence of their false Information. I see they take no Notice of the Deserters Information, but rest upon the *critical View of Tionderoga* at three miles distance.

You have done every thing in your Power, & I know both your Inclination & Reputation will lead you to persevere in that disposition to the last act of Securing Garrisons in the two Forts which I suppose you'll think of doing whether the Regulars be ordered or not — if they are ordered, a few of your best & activest Men should be left as Rangers. Your Credit is much interested in securing the Footing you've gain'd You see the Opinion of the Council about dismissing some of your Troops. It is a measure I see you'll quickly be reduced to, and I hope when done, that it may not discourage the rest who may be left

¹Original destroyed by fire.

behind. Cant you spur on those wretches By representing to them the danger they are in of loosing the Credit of their Victory, as well as of that Name they sustain in the World, unless they secure their Conquests for such I call the Forts when built. Governor Fitch, sensible that the Expedition will probably be laid aside, is very anxious on this Point, and believe me, those who are of a Contrary Opinion will have little Satisfaction in it upon their Return home. I laugh at & despise the Man you mention as an advocate for this Sentiment, and his Reason for it, is of little weight as I apprehend himself will soon be in the Esteem of the Publick. I am very sorry you could not be present in Council. If you can speak to any one be present yourself the next, and be very particular in recommend^g. the necessary Measures to be taken in Case the Expedition as I apprehend it is already laid aside. I would give my own Opinion and then receive theirs, and oblige them too to act according to mine, if there's appear'd unsupported by Reason. Mr. Ponnall is just come. Mr. Montresor the Engineer is come here too. The News from Boston is later than that they bring. (Boston Paper) The former says Hawke has taken 5 French Men of War & that about 20 French Merchantment are sent in to English Ports. A Warr seems inevitable — Adieu and believe me to ¹

yours most effectonat

GW BANYAR

The Commiss'r is over & desires to be remembered to you. Sir Charles seems to wish a Party may be sent to the Enemy's advanced Post as the opinion of the Council is. Mr. Ponnall last Night (it's now 28) read me I believe all his Letter he now writes I really think the Matter he speaks of requires Explanation, the Method of doing it must be thought of, it would look a little odd to write a Letter on that Subject only. Carpenters are about sending up by the Commissaries to build Scows & about 100 Men are going to Saraghtoga the Comm. of the Massachu-

¹ Omitted in the copy.

sets having rece'd an Extract of your Letter. Let not any thing that you can do be wanting to complete every thing necessary in the best Manner. I'm glad Coll Gridley is gone to Fort Edward — Give my Compliments pray to Mr. Wraxall & Mr. Eyre — Barracks for 500 Men are building between the Stockades & the Street running North from the Church.

MINUTES OF A COURT OF INQUIRY

This letter was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 61 by minutes of a court of inquiry, dated the 27th, in which Joseph Gilbert, accused of discharging his gun, thereby killing and wounding several persons, was acquitted. They were destroyed by fire.

FROM NATHANAEL DWIGHT¹

A. L. S.

Lake George Oct. 27th 1755

To the Honble Maj^r General Johnson now in the Camps Sir Stephen Davis one of my Sarg^t the bearer hearof is a man that has as I understand bin burnt out and Drove of from the Western frontiers three times by the Enemy by which he is redused to verry Low Circumstances the third and Last time he removed his family which are young and helpless to Hadley 3^d. precinct where he has the Summer past by his fingers Ends Supported them and when the Order Come out for recruts for this army in our Government the Capt of that place presd S^d Davis up hear and the towns people rise up against itt and Several offered to Come in his room even the Cap^ts own Son S^d to his Father in the face of the Company that he had rather Come in his room it made Such Great uneasiness but all would not Do Davis must Come Since that he has Letters from home which he will Lay before your Honour which represent his Family Sick and in verry Destitute Circumstancies and none to pity or Relieve them and if your Honour upon Consideration of the Case in your

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

wisdom Can thing ¹ it fit S^d. Davis Should be allowed to return to his family it will Greatly oblige him

These from S^r

your most Dutifull Humble Serv^t to Command

NATH'A DWIGHT

FROM AMOS PUTNAM ET AL

Amos Putnam and John Calef's undated certificate of sickness of Lieutenant Ephm Hail, following this in the Johnson Calendar, p. 62 was destroyed by fire.

REPORT TO MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT

*D. S.*²

October 27, 1755.

Province of the Massachusetts Bay

The Committee appointed to take under Consideration the several Letters & Papers received from his Excellency Governor Shirley and Major General Johnson, have maturely considered the same & have likewise fully discoursed with Colo. Ruggles, who lately left the Army destined for Crown Point, concerning the Situation & Circumstances of it; and are upon the whole of Opinion, that it is expedient the Army should proceed immediately upon the Expedition, and that the Committee of War make the necessary Provision for this Purpose: And in order more effectually to carry the Design into Execution, that it will be expedient that three Gentlemen of Weight and Influence should forthwith repair to Albany, to correspond with the Committee of War here & forward the Necessaries to the Army, and if need be to purchase such Articles as may be wanting upon any Emergency, or such as cannot so well be sent from hence. And that the other Governm^{ts}. concerned in the Expedition be acquainted with these Resolutions and desired to join some

¹ So in copy; k is intended.

² Original destroyed by fire.

Gentlemen from each of them respectively to carry on the same Design.

The Committee are further of Opinion that as His Excellency Govern^r. Shirley now is or will very probably soon be at Albany, his Excellency be desired to use his Weight and Influence with all concerned in the Execution of this important Plan, in order to engage them to proceed with Resolution and Dispatch.

In the Name & by Order of the Committee

J. Osborne

In Council October 27. 1755. Read & sent down

In the House of Represent[']ves. October 27. 1755.

Read & Ordered that this Report be accepted

Sent up for Concurrence

T. Hubbard Spk^r.

In Council Octo^r. 27. 1755. Read & Concurr'd

Tho^s. Clarke Dp^{ty}. Secr^y

Consented to, S. Phips.

Copy examined & THO^s. CLARKE Dp^{ty}. Secr^y.

FROM MINISTERS OF SOUTHOLD, L. I.

L. S.¹

Southold Oct^r. 28 1755

To the Honourable WILLIAM JOHNSON & PHINEAS LYMAN
Esq^{rs}.

Major Generals & Commanders in Chief of the Provincial Forces
design'd against Crown Point

We the Subscribers, & Ministers of the Gospel, in the Town
of Southold, on the Island of Nassau, in the Province of New
York in America, beg Leave to present the following.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

HON^D. SIRS —

As it hath pleased the sovereign God of Armies to bless & succeed the provincial Forces under your Command in the late happy Action, near Lake George; which has fired every loyal Breast thro' the respective Provinces, with signal Sentiments of Gratitude & thankfulness to almighty God, & under Him, with proper Acknowledgements to your Honours: so with raised Hopes & Expectations of the happy Event in the Reduction of Crown Point: which appears Matter of the highest Consequence to the Security of our future Peace and tranquility, & of all our most precious Priviledges, civil and sacred. We assure you Gentlemen, you have our united & repeated Prayers with our respective Congregations, (& indeed those of all the Ministers & Congregations thro' this Province, & New England.) to the Lord God of Armies, for your future Success and Prosperity in these most important Enterprises. We wish you Prosperity in the Name of the Lord: We wish your Success in the speedy Prosecution of the present Enterprise that God may be with you in the Camp; be with you in your Marches & Engagments; teach your Hands to war & your Fingers to fight, & in the End procure you a glorious Name & Renown. We feel, tho upon y^e Island our Hearts & Affections, as our Interest, heartily united to our dear Friends & brave Country-men of the Main Shore, who are bravely hazarding their Lives for the common Cause & Safty, & pray never to put up a Petition to Heaven, without bearing you upon our Hearts, with feeling Sentiments of Gratitude & Honour & with most earnest importunate Requests for your Safty, Success & happy Conquest.

Our People in Token of their Sentiments of Gratitude have collected near three hundred fat sheep with some cheeses & some proper Necessaries of Cloathing, (as the Inhabitants of the neighbouring towns in the County have of fat Cattle &c) for the use & Refreshment of the Army, or a Present, which we hope will

safely reach the Camp & be Kindly received. We feel ourselves nearly allied to our dear Friends of Connecticut, & the neighbouring Colonies, & can heartily say, your People shall be our People, & your God our God. We wish we were able to make a Present an hundred times as large. We should be heartily willing, Gentlemen, you should, were it possible, look into our Hearts & there see the Sentiments we bear to you, & all our dear Friends in the Camp as the Defenders of our Country under almighty God.

We are with great Respect, your Honours' obedient obliged humble Serv^t

JOSEPH PARK
WM THROOP
THOS PAINE

TO MOSES EMERSON ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar (*See* p. 62) by the following papers which were destroyed by fire: Wraxall's order for nails, directed to Moses Emerson and other commissaries at Albany, dated the 28th; minutes of a court of inquiry in relation to disorderly conduct of Dr Peter Middleton, dated the 28th; Colonel Ichabod Plaisted's report of arms and ammunition in regiment, dated the 28th; Colonel Nathan Whiting's report of ammunition, dated the 28th; Thomas Gage's report of ammunition in Colonel Willard's regiment, dated the 28th; orders to Captain Robert Rogers for scouting, dated the 29th; James Reed's report of scouting, dated the 29th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:271; *Q.* 4:176); and Dr Peter Middleton's request for an opportunity to defend himself in writing or be heard by a new and impartial court, undated.

FROM SPENCER PHIPS

*Df. S.*¹

Boston October 29. 1755

SIR

The General Court appointed a very large Committee of their Members to consider the present state of the Army & what are the most adviseable steps to be taken at this critical conjuncture; and Col^o. Ruggles coming to town soon after was fully heard by the whole Court and afterwards added to the Committee and after mature deliberation they agreed upon a Report which has been accepted by the Court copy of which I shall herewith forward to you. In consequence of this Report three Gentlemen viz. James Minot John Choate & Samuel Livermore Esq have been chosen & approved of to proceed to Albany & I expect they will set out in two or three days & I must desire you to correspond with them in all things pertaining to their Commission which will be founded on the said Report. I am sensible as well from Col^o. Ruggless general Character as from the particular account you have given of his Conduct that it is of importance he should repair to his Post without delay & therefore I have dispatched him as soon as possibly I could and I refer you to him for a more particular information of the sentiments of the General Court respecting your further proceeding. I am

S^r Your most humble servant

S. PHIPS

To the hon^l MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED: October 29. 1755 Lt. Gov^r. Phips's Letter to Maj^r.²

¹ In Massachusetts Archives.

² The remainder of the indorsement is mutilated.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.¹*Head Quarters.**Camp at Lake George Thursday Even^g. 30. October 1755*

At a Council of War held by General Johnson whereto all the Field officers in Camp were summoned

Pres't.

The General

Maj^r. General Lyman Col. Cockcroft

Col. Harris Col. Bagley

Col. Dyer Col. Plaisted

Col. Chauncey Col. Browne

{ Lieu ^t . Col. Cole	Lieu ^t . Col. Fry	} absent by Sickness
{ Lieu ^t . Col. Worster	Maj ^r . Richardson	

Lieu^t. Col. Cummins Lieu^t. Col. WardLieu^t. Col. Nicholls Lieu^t. WhitcombLieu^t. Col. Whiting Maj^r. PaysonMaj^r. ChamplinMaj^r. KingsburyMaj^r. GageMaj^r. MillerCap^t. Eyre Chief Engineer &c. Cap^t. Glazier Adj^t. Gen^l.Peter Wraxall Secr^{ry}.

The General acquainted this Council of War that as by the Minutes of One held here the 18 or 19 Inst the Consideration of his Proposal concerning an attack on Tionderoga or the Enemys Advanced Guard posted on this side the Carrying Place was postponed till further Intelligence was obtained; he now laid before this Council of War, Captain Rodgers & Companys Relation of their Scout to Crown Point, and Cap^t. Dolittle's Acc^t. of his reconnoitring Party towards Tionderogo.

¹ Original destroyed by fire. There is a copy in Public Record Office, C. O. 5.17, London, England; transmitted by Governor Hardy November 27th.

The General hereupon desires this Council of War will now take into their Consideration the first Article proposed by him in the ^{sd}. Minutes of the 18 Inst. (w^{ch} were read to the Council from the Original) & give him their Opinion agreeable to his said Proposal as therein Minuted.

The General made the following previous Observations to this Council of War.

- (1.) That the Information of the German Deserter who was brought into this Camp and the Five others who were carried to Fort Edward, are all uniformly positive that the advanced Guard of the Enemy do not exceed 80 Men, and that our Scouts have reconnoitred at such a Distance in such Circumstances that their Accounts, particularly as to this advanced Guard, may be supposed very inaccurate.
2. That it appears to him, the taking or cutting off this advanced Guard or Party, is a feasible attempt and what the Duty & honour of this Army call for & incumbent upon him to recommend to their favourable attention — that he has ordered a Survey of the Battoes & 85 are returned to him as fit for Service.
3. That if this attempt should succeed (which he thinks if well conducted it may) it will not only raise the Reputation of this Army in the Eyes both of our Friends & Enemies, but discourage the latter tend to increase our Influence & Consequence amongst our Allied Indians, weaken the French Indian Interest & probably prevent many Scalping Parties from disturbing our out settlements this ensuing Winter.

The General also laid before this Council of War a Letter to him from Col. Peter Gilman Commanding the New Hampshire Reinforcements now at Albany, and the Minutes of a Council held by Sr. Charles Hardy at Albany.

Upon which he desired the Opinion of this Council of War, Whither they think it adviseable for him to dismiss the said Reinforcements from this Service.

Upon the first Article referred to in the Minutes of the Council of War of the 18 or 19 Inst. this Council of War gave their Opinion that both attacks were not adviseable.

Voted that the further Consideration of this Article be deferred till further Intelligence is obtained w^{ch} is daily expected by Cap^t. Rodgers & his Party gone down the Lake or by any other Means.

With regard to the New Hampshire Reinforcements the Council of War are unanimously of Opinion that they be not yet a while dismissed, as the State of this Army has been transmitted & referred to the Consideration of the several Gov^{ts} concerned & as it would cause a general Uneasiness among the rest of the Troops.

PETER WRAXALL

Secr^y.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 30 Octo^r. 1755

SIR

Yours of yesterday with the sundry returns therein mentioned I received. As the Court of Inquiry have found the Discharge of Gilbert's Piece to be Accidental & without Malice, You will please to order him out of Confinement.

I herewith send you Authentic Copies of Lieu^t. Col. Gilbert's List of officers w^{ch}. he sent me to fill up Commissions for, & w^{ch}. by the Extract of Cap^t. Wraxall's Letter to Col. Gilbert, I judged was agreeable to the Plan determined by the Gov^r. & Council of Boston, if not Col. Gilbert has grosely imposed on me & made a false Return. You will order a Court of Inquiry on this Matter & send me their Proceedings; you have a Copy of Major Hoare's Letter to Cap^t. Wraxall.

I approve of your taking the Two Load of Bread & hope Mr. Emerson will send you a speedy & suff^t. supply.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

To give Col. Ruggles's Reg^t. leave to go home is I think at this juncture too delicate & important for me to order. I leave to your Discretion the consenting to furloughs for particular Person in w^{ch}. I doubt not you will consult the Good of the Service. You will give out in orders y^t. no Furloughs are granted without y^r. consent.

I greatly depend upon you to expedite the compleating of Fort Edward, to lose no time, to employ every hand that can be useful is of the utmost Consequence to the Service at this Season of the Year. I am Sir Y^{rs}. &c.

to COL. GRIDLEY

Comm^d. at Fort Edward

FROM PETER MIDDLETON ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar (See p. 62) by these papers, destroyed by fire: a request, undated, from Dr Peter Middleton for a copy of the proceedings of a court of inquiry; a protest, undated, by Dr Middleton against the finding of the court, with a request for an impartial hearing; Josiah Stanley's request for a furlough, dated October 31st; orders to commanding officers at Albany to furnish a guard for Lieutenant Governor Pownall as far as Fort Edward, dated the 31st; orders to Captain Samuel Angell to reconnoiter near the Carrying Place, dated the 31st; orders to Colonel Richard Gridley for forwarding trowels and hammers, for sale of arms of French deserters for their benefit, and a guard for Lieutenant Governor Pownall from Fort Edward, dated the 31st; and orders to the commander of the Massachusetts reinforcements at Albany to expedite the movement of wagons at Saratoga, dated the 31st.

FROM THOMAS FITCH¹

New Haven 31st October 1755

SIR

Your Letters of the 13th Instant, by Lieu^t. Colo. Pitkin and of the 20th. and 22^d. by Cap^t. Stores came to Hand during the Session of the General Assembly in this Place, before whom, I

¹Original destroyed by fire.

laid the several Matters, for their Consideration, And am to acquaint You in Addition to what I wrote in my last that the Assembly, altho greatly concerned to have the Expedition proceeded in further, and willing to exert themselves to their Utmost for that Purpose, Yet being made sensible by the Intellegence you have given, that it appears impracticable, they have come into a Resolve for discharging, as many of the Troops as may be spared, from the necessary Services, yet remaining to be performed, a Copy of which I enclose for your Information and Direction, so far as relates to this Colony. You will therefore observe the Directions therein given in discharging such Part of Our Troops, as shall be judged proper, to be released and sent Home, from the Service under your Care. I have wrote to Major General Lyman Directions in some Matters which relate to our own Troops after discharged, not apprehending it proper to Trouble You with those Things.

(Rendering you my hearty Thanks for your good Service)
I am Sr. Your most humble and Obedient Servant

THO^s. FITCH

MAJ^R GEN^{LL}. JOHNSON.

RESOLVE OF CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY

D. S.¹

[October 31 ? 1755]

Anno Ri. Rs. Georgii, 2di. 29no.

At a General Assembly of the Governor and Company of His Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America, holden at New Haven in said Colony on the 2d Thursday of October,² Annoq. Dom: 1755.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² October 9, the date when the general assembly convened. *Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut*, 10:420, 425.

RESOLVED that, it is the opinion of this Assembly, that such, and so many of the Troops, raised by this Government, and under the Command of Major General Johnson, as (Regard had to fortifying, garrisoning, and other occasional Operations) may safely be drawn off, be forthwith dismiss, and at Liberty to return Home, And that the Number to be retained in said Army, be according to the Quota originally proposed and agreed on, between the Governments, in said Armament concerned. And further, that in such Dismission the Troops first sent into said Service, be preferred, save only such of them as may voluntarily remain therein. And His Honour the Governor is desired hereof, to advise said General Johnson, by immediate Express to him with a Copy of this Resolve.

A True Copy, Examd. per GEORGE WYLLYS. Secre^{ty}.

TO PETER GILMAN

*Df. S.*¹

Camp at Lake George

31. Octo^r. 1755—

SIR

Your letter of the 28 Inst I laid before a Council of War last night for their Opinion whether I should dismiss the Troops under your Command at Albany. They gave their Opinion that as a State of the Army & the several Circumstances relative to our present Situation has been transmitted to the several Gov^{ts}. & their Directions in consequence of it desired. Answers to w^{ch} are expected in a few Days, that I should not at present dismiss your Troops, & also that such a Dismission would at this Juncture be a prejudice to the Service by discouraging the rest of the Troops. I hope a very few days will enable me to give you some

¹ In Ayer Collection, Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.

positive Orders, till when you will remain in your present Situation with your Regiment.

I am Sir

Your very hum Sv^t

W J

TO COLONEL PETER GILMAN
Commanding officer of the
New Hampshire Reinforcements
at Albany

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 31 Octo^r. 1755 —

SIR

Your Excellencys favour of the 28 Inst inclosing the Minutes of Council is before me.

Last night I summoned a Council of War & herewith is a Copy of the Minutes, and also a Copy of Cap^t. Dolittles report of his reconnoitring Party that went to Tionderogo mentioned in said Minutes. I warmly urged an attempt to surprise the Enemys Advanced Guard on this side the Carrying Place. but besides the reasons Minuted for deferring their Detirmination on that point, it was said, that the Men were all possessed with a firm Persuasion that we were to proceed no further this Fall, that finishing the Fort was to be their last Labour, that if this Scheme was to take place, it would totally discourage them from going on with the Fort, that it was with great difficulty & nice Mannagment that their Spirits were kept up for the Works, that by far the greatest part of the Men were quite home-sick, no ways inclined or disposed for any further Operations against the Enemy — that they were & had been for some time at short allowance of Bread, & their Stock of Rum almost Expended. All this & much more to the same purpose passed in the course of the Debate.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.



S^R. WILLIAM JOHNSON.



(?) JOHNSON

As to ordering any of the Troops down to Albany, they were utterly against it, not only that we may in a few days expect to have answers to the Dispatches sent to the Gov^{ts}. of Massachusetts & Connecticut, but that the present Temper of the Troops would render it not only an imprudent but a fatal Measure.

I have ordered Col. Gridley & he has promised to forward Compleating Fort Edward with the utmost Dispatch, I have reinforced that Garrison with 100 Men. I have ordered Four Waggon from Albany to be loaded with Fodder & to come up, Two to assist at Fort Edward & two here; for some days past the Works here have gone on with Spirit, the Bastions & ramparts are finished & a great part of the Earth thrown up for the Parapet, one of the Barracks roofed, another almost ready, the Mason Work in hand, some of the Magazines compleated & the rest near finished & Cap^t. Eyre tells me that in 8 or 10 days if the Weather permits he hopes it will be in a defensible Condition.

As to the Garrisoning of these Two Forts this Winter I am affraid it cannot be done with these Troops, the time of Elistment of the Massachusetts Troops, expires in December & January, as I think dos the Connecticut, Col. Cockcroft tells me some of his Peoples Enlistments are already expired & I heard from One of his Serg^{ts}. that the Major part of the Reg^t. expires next Month & that they will not be disposed to stay longer. Provincial Forces in general do not seem formed for Garrison. And I believe there will not be near a suff^t. number of Men & officers found disposed to remain in Garrison, & in my own private Opinion, from my Experience & Conversation amongst their Officers, I should not think it prudent to leave these Forts wholly in their hands. however this be, it is I think now time to take this Matter into serious Consideration & fall on effectual Measures relating to it.

I did not know the Deserters bro^t. any Arms with them. I shall write to Col. Gridley to get them & send 'em down to your Excellency, but I fear that meanness of Spirit of w^{ch} I have seen

so many Instances in this Army, has interposed & will defeat my Intentions.

I thought what I wrote to Your Excellency in mine of the 24 Inst would be suff^t. for a Company of the Massachusetts Reinforcements to be posted on the East side of the River. I will inclose y^r. Excellency an Order in form for that purpose. Cap^t. Rodgers the most active officer in this Army is gone down the Lake with about 28 or 30 picked Men in Battoes in order to intercept one or more Canoes w^{ch}. Blanchard the Deserter tells me, are daily sent about 12 or 15 Miles this way in order to make Discoveries, I gave him particular Directions & if the Enemy comes in his way, I hope he will do something.

I applied to the Council of War last night to recommend to me a proper & capable Officer to go with 3 or 4 more in order to indeavour at such a Discovery of the Enemys Advanced Guard as may remove the Difficulties & Uncertainties w^{ch} are started on that point.

I must repeat to Your Excellency the Difficulties w^{ch} I foresee about Garrisoning the Forts this Winter out of these Troops if the rest of the Army is Disbanded.

Your Excellency mentioned some time ago your design to send up some Bullets & Flints, we are very scarce of both. No Ladles, Spunges or Rammers came with the Cannon to Fort Edward. None can be spared from hence.

I have about 10 or 12 Indians with me a small Scouting Party of them are gone to Wood Creek & South Bay, and three upon a Scalping Scheme to Crown Point. I am

Sir &c.

To His Excell^y. S^R. CHARLES HARDY &c.

FROM HENRY BABCOCK AND OTHERS¹

L. S.

Camp at Lake George 1st November 1755

SIR

Though we are loath to trouble You, with Complaints against an Officer here in the Army. Yet the Indignity put upon us by Colonel Dyer is such, that we cannot in Justice to ourselves pass it over.

We have been credibly informed that Col. Dyer reported to You, that Sunday the 26th., when we were upon Duty on the Quarter Guard at the Front of Col. Cockcrofts Regiment, That from Midnight till the firing of the Morning Gun, We neither went our Rounds nor relieved our Centry's nor turned out our Guard to the Grand Rounds, But behaved in a supine negligent manner unbecoming Officers intrusted with such an important Command Whatever were Col. Dyers Motives for representing us in a Light so unworthy a Soldier we know not, but as we are none of us conscious of the least Defect of Duty that Night we look upon this his Piece of Information so malicious and hurtfull to our Character, that we beg we may have an Oppertunity of vindicating ourselves before such as you shall think proper to appoint for the Examination of our Conduct.— That same Night also we received a most gross affront of another kind from Lieut. Isaacs of Col. Chanceys Reg^t. who officiating as Adjutant that Morning took upon him to impose one of his Sergeants upon us for a Lieutenant, who accordingly had the Impudence to intrude himself amongst us into the Guard Room and was accordingly entertained as became a Commissioned Officer. As these Practices are not only equally destructive of all Subordination & Discipline, but an unwarrantable Abuse of manifest Insult upon

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

us we hope that you will please to give us Redress upon those who are the Authors of this Imposition. We are with Respect Sir

Your most Ob^t. humble Servants

HENRY BABCOCK Cap^t.

HENRY VAN SCHAACK Lieu^t.

WILL^m: HUNTER Lieu^t.

FROM ROGER BILLINGS

Roger Billings's report of scouting (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:274; Q, 4:177), dated November 2d, following the foregoing in the Johnson Calendar, p. 63 was destroyed by fire.

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 1. November 1755

SIR

Both your very esteemed favours of the 8 & 24 Sep^r. came the same day to my hands. I was then confined by an Inflammation in the side of my head w^{ch}. kept me partly confined to my Bed wholly to my Tent for above a Fortnight. It is but a few days since I have dared venture abroad, & am forced even now to do it with Caution.

This is one Cause that has kept me Silent tho so agreeably provoked by your Judicious elegant & friendly Letters, to have done myself the honour of answering them. Besides this Impediment, is the great Variety of public Buisness w^{ch} constantly & indispensibly calls for my attention. It is impossible for me regularly to correspond with or distinctly to transmit to the several Governments who have raised Troops on this Expedition those Papers & Advices w^{ch} are necessary for their Information & to furnish me with their Directions; I have thus far constantly desired the Lieut Gov^r. of Massachusetts Bay to send Copies to Your

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Honour & the Gov^r. of New Hampshire of my Dispatches to him. The Gentleman who is my Secretary, is also my Aid de Camp, & this without either Pay or Perquisites; (for no Establishment was provided by the Colonies); his hands have been constantly full & it has not been in my power to relieve him from his Constant Application. I believe the attention w^{ch} an irregular Army calls for, is much greater than that of a regular one. Sure I am that my perplexities have been without intermission & my Patience put to a very severe trial. I will not trouble you with particulars.

I have mentioned these things in general to justify my keeping two such Letters as yours so long unanswered by me.

When this Command was pressed upon me, I was fully possessed of its Importance. I foresaw that it would bring upon me a great deal of Fatigue, & confessed that it demanded Abilities to w^{ch} I did not pretend to be equal. however united Applications drew my Consent. I have exerted my self in every Shape to the utmost of my Tether. It is very probable that the Event will fall short of the public Expectations of the Colonies Concerned, of the Expence they have been at & the Numbers of Men they have sent, in neither of w^{ch}. can I reasonably charge them with a deficiency: And if Disappointment should as it possibly may, turn their reflections upon me, I am calmly conscious of my own Innocence, and if I should be Authoritively called upon to do it, I have materials to justify my Conduct.

One short reflection I will make upon the Subject & so conclude it. That the warmth of Imagination & the Vivacity of hope, are very apt not only to outstrip possibilities, but to prevent a sedate & judicious attention to Circumstances by w^{ch} means we reason upon imaginary Principles & draw suitable Conclusions.

Our Army since the Engagement has grown more & more Sickly, their Vigor declining, & their Vivacity subsiding, The Reinforcements seem rather to have shared than added any thing to the cure of our Distempers. They have so much increased the Consumption of our Provisions particularly Bread & Rum, that

of the former we have been for some time at short allowance, & of the latter we have scarce any left. Our Men are quite homesick subdued & surfeited with the fatigues & hardships of a Military Life, no ways disposed to go forwards, impatient to return home, averse to the Common Duties of a Soldiers Life, Indolence, Murmuring & repining are their glaring Characters.

We have been above a Month erecting a Fort here to secure the Ground we have fought for or a retreat in case it had been necessary, or to preserve our Artillery & all other Stores w^{ch} it would have been impossible to have carried off at this late Season of the year. this Important Fort wants yet a great deal to compleat it & unspeakable are the Difficulties I have met with & do meet with in carrying it on. This Character of the Army is in a great Degree as applicable to the officers as the Soldiers. But I must do the Troops from your Colony the Justice to say that in general, both Officers & Men, have from the begining distinguished themselves amongst the very best & particularly so in our Action against the Enemy.

The State of this Army & the several Circumstances relating to it, by the Advice of Two Councils of War, I transmitted the 13 & 22 Octo^r. to Gov^r. Phipps who I desired to send you Copies. We are impatiently waiting the Sentiments & Directions of the several Gov^{ts}. in consequence thereof.

Mr. Hopkins Your Son was at this Camp whilst I lay ill, by w^{ch} means I was prevented from Showing him those Civilities w^{ch}. his relation to you would have disposed me to.

I understand by Col. Cole that some reports have been spread to the Disadvantage of his Character as an officer In justice to him I must assure you that I have always found he acted worthy the Comand conferred on him and I wish he had always been at the head of the Reg^t.

I am Sir with great Esteem Your Honours Most Ob^{dt} hum Serv^t.

To the Honorable GOV^r. HOPKINS of Rhode Island.

FROM ABRAHAM LANSING

A letter of November 1st from Abraham Lansing, at Fort Edward, to Johnson on court martial proceedings, following the preceding in the Johnson Calendar, p. 63 was destroyed by fire.

TO ROGER BILLING

*Df.*¹

[*Camp at Lake George 2 Novr. 1755*]²

TO CAPT. BILLINGS

You are to embark with the party under your Command in order to join Cap^t. Rodgers, You are to keep the Men orderly and Silent upon pain of Death & not scatter the Battoes out of sight of each other Your self or the next officer in Command to be in the last Battoe in order to bring up the Rear regularly, on your joining Cap^t. Rodgers you are all to be under his Command & deliver him my Letter herewith. I have directed him to consult with the Officers when Occasion requires Your Success depends upon Secrecy & Silence let that be your principal Care & Attention. take Connor in the Battoe with you as a Pilot. And Let the officer who brings up the Rear, have the Indian who came from Cap^t. Rodgers in his Battoe.

FROM GEORGE MUIRSON

A letter of November 2d from George Muirson, of New York, announcing to Johnson a present of fat cattle, stockings and mittens from people of Suffolk county, in the Johnson Calendar, p. 63 was destroyed by fire.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

²Date supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

TO MOSES EMERSON AND OTHERS

Df.¹*Camp at Lake George 2 Nov^r. 1755 —*

GENTLEMEN

By returns from the several Commissaries this day, it appears that We have not on the whole more than 5 days allowance of Bread in Camp with Flour Rice Meal & Samp we might make out 9 or 10 days. the Men for the most part have been for some days past at short allowance w^{ch} together with the want of Rum, occasions a great deal of murmuring & uneasiness. I wish it may not increase & end fatally unless sufficient Supplies are speedily sent particularly for the Massachusetts Troops. The Connecticut I hear have large Quantities of Bread or flour upon the Road. If for the want of Bread we should be obliged to abandon this place or the Troops should refuse to stay, Words nor even Imagination cannot paint the dreadful & infamous Consequences, equally important it is that a proper Quantity of Provisions should be left for the Garrisons here & at Fort Edward where they are likewise short of Bread.

I send this to you by Express to give you timely Notice that you may without the least Delay exert your selves proportionably to the Number of your respective Troops & the great importance of the affair, I call on you to do it & I expect you will make use of your utmost Power & Diligence to save the public & this Army from the impending Evils with w^{ch} it is by the want of Bread threatened. You will consider how precarious the Season of the year renders our Resource, so that not a day should be lost. Sr. Charles Hardy's zeal has been manifested at a very critical Juncture & the ready Exertion of his Authority has probably saved us from the last & greatest Distress, and I persuade myself if when you show him this Letter as I desire you will do,

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

he will continue to Strengthen y^r. hands & lend you every kind of assistance within the reach of his Authority

I am

Gentlemen

Y^{rs} &c.

To MR MOSES EMERSON and the rest of the Provincial Commissaries at Albany.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George Sunday night <Nov. 2.>

SIR

By returns from the Commissaries this day I find we have not above 5 days allowance of Bread in this Camp. The Men have been for some days at short allowance this & the want of Rum occasions a great deal of Murmuring & Uneasiness. I am alarmed at the Consequences on all Acc^{ts}. The Inclosed Letter is to acquaint the Provincial Commissaries at Albany of this Matter to order & to urge them in the strongest Manner to hasten Supplies. I have mentioned your want as well as ours.

Send forward this Letter by a good Serg^t. & 7 or 8 or 12 brisk Fellows to Seraghtoga with an order to the officer there to send it by a Serg^t. & 5 or more Men without delay to Commissary Emerson.

Pray send the Trowalls & Hammers by these People

I am Sir y^{rs}

To COLONEL GRIDLEYE

If you can send a good Express a Horse back do it. I have ordered a Company to Seraghtoga if they should not be arrived & you have no horse the Men must go forward. upon Second thoughts if you should get a horse I believe it will be safest to take a Guard to Seraghtoga.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

FROM THOMAS POWNALL

A. L. S.¹*Albany. Nov^r 2^d. 1755—*

DEAR SIR —

I had this day the pleasure of your's of y^e 31st.² And am really, without Compliment, greatly obliged to You for it & for y^e honor You do me in y^e enclosed Order as also for y^e Guard You intended me from Fort Edward. I was determin'd upon coming up & your Letter fix'd me, but this Evening we have an account that M^r Shirly dined today at Scenectady & is to be here directly tomorrow. As soon as ever y^e Confusion that Matters are in here can be any how remedied, we must go down directly for NYork where I am obliged to be y^e 10th at a Congress — And I am thus by circumstances that I expect I can be of no use in, nor any good from; deprived y^e pleasure of seeing You & talking with You which woud have given me the highest satisfaction. If I go to England I shall certainly not go till y^e latter end of this month. If it be possible for You to come to NYork do.

S^r Charles Hardy is very much your freind & has wrote to England very strongly in your favor, if you apply to him for y^e 1300 £ due to You. He will I beleive (M^r Watts lead me to think so) be able to gett it for you, such is y^e disposition of y^e Assembly towards You at present. And I know he will try.

I beg You will (if I must despair of y^e satisfaction of talking with You) write me by minute or memorandum or any how answers to y^e several points I have proposed to You. I mean by them to enable myself to be a Freind. I have seen all y^e Matters relative to your wretched (as Milton calls it) painfull Preheminence in y^e Command of the glorious & victorious New England War. I want nothing to make me see it clearler, seing

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

² Not found.

might possibly make me feel for You with more anxious sensations — Tho' at present I must pity You. Yet I shall live to congratulate You & I hope soon. Virtue may, like Fire, lye buried & smotherd for some time, & by oppression it may seem to be quite putt out. Yet will it burst forth at length with a more splendid & active Vigour.—Keep up Your Spirits, & keep up your hopes. I can almost venture to tell You you will be provided for with honor.—

Permit me my dear Sir, to remind You, 'tis y^e advise of a sincere freind who wishes You to be more prudent than perhaps I should be able to be myself in y^e same Case, permitt me to remind You of y^e Fable in Homer, where, as we used to read at school, when y^e Aggravations that Achilles suffer'd had wrought him to be just going into Acts of Resentment Minerva laied her hand upon his hand & putt it back. And y^e Forbearance that he with y^e utmost & most painfull reluctance submitted to, ended in his greater & more establish'd Glory.

I shall propose in such a manner as I shall hope to be able to carry thro', y^e Building of a picquetted Fort, & laying in a Magazine of Flour at Sacondaga Creek north of your house. I should be glad, to enable me to propose this properly, to know y^e nature of y^e Ground from y^e Settlements on your Creek, to y^e Forks at Sacondaga Creek. It is I find but seven miles north 15° East, half sandy pine Land. The Creek I am told, were it not for a barr at y^e mouth, where it enters into Sacondaga river, is capable of being navigated with large Shallops & y^e Sacondaga River capable of a Navigation with large boats as far as y^e Falls about 8 miles above Fort Edward.—However, that both are capable of a navigation with large Flatts like y^e English lighters. If these Facts be true, as I am told I may depend upon them to be, I am Certain, that, besides y^e benefit a Fort woud be in that part, Provisions especially Flour might be more easily collected in a magazine there, & infinitely more easily sent from thence, early in Spring, down y^e Stream, than from Albany up y^e Stream that is so rapid at that season. If You can contrive it any way

I wish you woud have that matter inquired into, y^e Whole Pass from Your Creek down sacondaga Creek & y^e Sacondaga River to y^e Falls, reconoitred; & send me an Account by y^e time of y^e Congress. or if that cannot be done time enough, send me y^e best account you can gett me.

Tho' I have troubled You with many troublesome questions yet there are none, as far as I am sensible, impertinent, & none but what I coud make great Use of y^e Answers to. If you can favor me with such answer do, I shall be obliged to You.— May I beg such before I go to England.— I intended to pay my respects to your Sister today with Cap^t Rutherford, but her Servant Maid said She was not well enough to see Company.

I am Sir most sincerely yours

POWNALL

FROM SAMUEL ANGELL ET AL

Brief descriptions will be found in the Johnson Calendar, p. 63–64 of Samuel Angell's report of a scout along Lake George, dated November 3d (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:274–75; Q, 4:178); Robert Rogers's report of a scout and an engagement, dated the 3d (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:272–73; Q, 4:176–77); Johnson's warrant for rehearing the case of Dr Peter Middleton by a court of inquiry, dated the 4th; minutes of a council of war at Lake George, dated the 4th, consideration of points resumed and postponed. All were destroyed by fire.

TO ROBERT ROGERS

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 2 Nov^r. 1755

TO CAPTAIN RODGERS.—

Agreable to Your Message & Desire I send You a Reinforcement of ² Men under the Command of Cap^t. Billings who with the Men are to put themselves under your Command. I would recommend to you to act with silent Caution & so to post

¹ Original destroyed by fire. ² Omitted in copying.

your Men as to cut off their retreat to Tionderogo. It appears to me most adviseable to begin the Attack from the Water securing their Canoes & that at break of Day. You will consult with the Officers upon your proceedings but the Stroke must be struck without delay. If there are any Works & time will permit destroy them, do your Buisness as soon as possible & dont delay one Moment when you have done the best you can suffer no Men to delay time by looking after Plunder, for if you are dilatory the Enemy from Tionderogo may come upon you & be too powerful for you to make a safe Retreat.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

Albany 4 Nov'r. 1755.

DEAR SIR

I have read your Letter of the 31 and the Papers that accompanied it and very much approve of the manner you recommended the particulars to the Council of Warr: Tho from the disposition the army seems to be of I expect very little Good from it — It's extremely well judg'd to discover your thoughts as to the Garrison of the Fort at the Lake. & the other too if any difficulty is likely to occur concerning that: How the General, who has ordered Dinner at 3 this afternoon & expected by that time, will dispose of his Troops I cant tell. Barracks are going on with. You had a Company last Warr at M^t. Johnson, do you think it may be proper for you to take and apply for one now. They'l be useful to the Service if M^r. Ps: Scheme of a Fort at Sacondage takes place I suppose he has mention'd it to you, if not take no Notice of it from me it is to facilitate the sendg. pris's:² down that River to Fort Edward or some proper place

¹Original destroyed by fire.

²This word evidently should be "provs:," for provisions, though in the copy "pris's:," for prisoners, appears.

contiguous — I like it if the River be not interrupted by any considerable Fall, and Mills for grinding Wheat &c be immediately set up. I see the advantage of it to you & like it the better for that reason — Do you think it proper, or perhaps you may have represented to the General the necessity of Regulars to garrison the two Forts. I dont think they'l be safe with irregulars only. Indians ought to be kept there & presents put into the Hands of the officer for them, this is your department I believe you've not desired Sir Charles, but he has I understand from Mr. P. recommended you strongly to the Great, in a manner you yourself could choose to have it done. Should you pay Militia when there are so many of the Kings Troops to garrison the Indian Forts. I have orders to send a part of the Musket Shot and Flints to you but cant imagine you can really want them.

I believe were expected in N. Y. for I receive no Letters or Papers if I can get the list to inclose to you I will. The Army's complaining always of the want of Bread if they have Flour enough I think I could make a shift with that: Remember the securing Battoes Scows Cannon Stores Prov^s. the two Forts and view the one where you are often if your Health permits. Your Barrels or the Staves of them may serve for others to Barrel Beef drove up & Salted at Fort Edward It is necessary therefore to preserve them. they want no Store Room but a look out to prevent the Burning of them — Adieu.

I am yours most affectionately

CW. BANYAR

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹Nov^r. 4: 1755. P: M: 3.

DR SIR

About 1/2 an Hour ago I sealed my Letter to you of this day: Since which an Express arrived here from Boston with Pacquets for Gen Shirley from England. All that I hear yet is that he has a Commⁿ. or Comm^s. in chief with all the Powers Mr Braddock had — & some say the Comm^s. for the Vacancies are come to him blank. this Fact is not so certain as 'tother. About 150 Merchantmen are taken from the French by Way of Hostage I suppose, among 'em its said 3 Men of War, but nothing but the 1st. Fact is yet to be credited — I shall only say, How necessary it is since things are thus situated, that a good understanding be established & continued among the great Folks — We should regard the Service, & not think of the Persons in whom the Power is placed. If this is not done, the Preparations that are necessary will go on heavily this Winter, and nothing will be in readiness against next Spring, or against a General may come from England. The King was not ² & wars not proclaimed nor expected to be so until his return. It is absolutely necessary that altercations which concern you Cease, and as the other person concerned has now also the Power he can wish for, I suppose he'll gladly relinquish to you what I dare say will appear to be your department, and be glad too to keep up a good Correspondence with you. If he sees his own Interest he will, and with every one else if it be possible.

Yours Dr Sr:

GW BANYAR

It's now 5 oClock: I suppose this New app^t. may make some alteration in the whole System So you'l read my other Letter as wrote before the alteration.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Illegible: "returned" may have been written.

TO BENNING WENTWORTH

Df.¹*Camp at Lake George 4 Novr. 1755.*

SIR

A few Days ago I received Your Excellencys favour of the 25 Sep^r. inclosed in a Letter from Col. Gilman at Albany.

The Activity & Usefulness of Col. Blanchards Reg^t. woud prejudice me in favour of any other from your Province.

By Col. Gilmans Letter I find the Stores & Provisions for his Reg^t. were not arrived & that the People were enlisted only to the 5 of next Month.

Since the Visit w^{ch} the Enemy paid us here we have been kept extreemly short of Bread & tho S^r. Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York came up to Albany purposely to invigorate & forward every thing at Albany & has exerted his Authority in the strongest Manner he could yet Waggon have been so scarce the Roads at this Season of the Year so bad & the Stores about the Country quite beat out, that we have had only a bare Supply of Bread for present Consumption, & tho the Men have been at short allowance for sometime past we have not above 4 days bread now in Camp. For these reasons & some others, the Council of War advised me to order the Reinforcements that were at Albany to remain there till further orders.

Col. Gilman in the Letter w^{ch}. covered yours wrote me, that as he was informed we should not go forward this Fall, he was desirous of marching his Reg^t. back before full Winter should set in w^{ch}. woud be most for the health of his People & be some saving to the Province. The Gov^r. & Council of New York at Albany gave also their opinion in favour of this measure. I laid both before a Council of War, who gave their opinion that it was not adviseable immediately to dismiss the New Hampshire Reg^t. as it woud greatly discourage the rest of the Troops, who are quite tired of their Military Life & exceeding earnest to

¹Original destroyed by fire.

return home. And also that as the State of their Army & all Circumstances relating to it had been transmitted to the several Gov^{ts}. concerned for their Direction, w^{ch}. we are daily expecting, it would be most adviseable first to have the Gov^{ts}. Answers.

I transmitted to Gov^r. Phipps this State of the Army & desired he would send your Excellency Copies thereof. It would have imprudently delayed time to have wrote distinctly to the several Gov^{ts}. concerned.

It has been a mortification to me that I have not been able to correspond distinctly & frequently with your Excellency but as the Gov^{ts}. concerned made no Provision for a Sec^{ry}. & Clerks & no Establishment for an Aid de Camp, Cap^t. Wraxall has acted in both those Capacities without Pay or perquisite & has had his hands constantly full.

Our Fort here is pretty far advanced to its completion it has met with many obstructions & the Men have been very backward in working there w^{ch} has been partly owing to several of their officers. It had the sanction of a Council of War & 700 were promised daily to work at it. I hope however it will be in a tenable condition in 8 or 9 days.

I am very suspicious that as our Opperations will not equal the hopes & wishes of the public, Dissatisfaction & Reproach will arise, but at the same time I am convinced all Circumstances considered we have done what has been in our power, at least I am fully conscious I have exerted my utmost Influence & abilities to obtain every possible advantage & improve every Circumstance for the public Good. Want of Waggon, Reinforcements pouring in & consuming the old Stock of Provisions & Stores — their own not arriving in time — The late Season & bad Roads — Sickness nakedness & hardships endured by the Troops & thereby disheartened — This was out of my power to remedy, nor are the Consequences imputable to me. When all things are calmly weighed & considered, I believe it can be made appear, that this Army has warded off the most fatal blow that ever threatened these Neighbouring Colonies, & tho their Expence has been very great, it has not been ill laid out.

I wish your Excellency every thing that is wish worthy and
am most respectfully Sir

Your most Obed^t hum Serv^t.

INDORSED: General's Letter to
Gov^r. Wentworth
4 Nov^r. 1755.

FROM MOSES EMERSON¹

Albany 5. Nov^r. 1755

SIR

I now send by Jacob V. Vrancken a Cask of 10^d. Nails agreeable to y^r Honors Orders.—The Augers Mr. Lyman promis'd to send, w^{ch}. conclude he has done I rec^d. your Hon^{rs}. Orders of 2. Inst. this day & shall show it to S^r. Charles Hardy.—I have had a Majestrate & some Constables at Schenectady & down the River for 3 or 4 days after Waggones, but as yet have had but 35. come in, w^{ch} have loaded chiefly with Bread and Rum. Am very glad Connecticut Troops are like to have a large supply of Bread in Season, hope they'l be able to repay what they Borrow'd of Massachusets

Mr. Titcomb wrote me he had lent Connecticut 50 Cask Bread, & it is likely some of the other Commissarys have also supply'd 'em — Mr. Lyman himself thinks he shall be obleig'd to make Two Trips to repay what Bread he owes — I cant help thinking that the Massachusetts Troops have been better supply'd than Connecticut & am sorry to have Massachusetts only singled out as Deficient — I shall do every Thing in my Power to get up the Provisions — Your Hon^r. will please to Excuse my troubling you with this

I am Sir

Your Hon^{rs}. Obed^t. Servant

MOSES EMERSON

Hon^{ble}. MAJ^R. GENERAL JOHNSON

¹Original destroyed by fire.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

*Df.*¹*Camp at Lake George 5 Novr. 1755.*

SIR

Yours of Yesterday with the Returns I received last night. I am sorry for your Indisposition & hope it will soon leave you. You will direct Major Fitch to forward every thing with all the Dispatch possible. I have ordered 4 Waggon's to be sent from Albany, two of w^{ch} I propose shall stay at Fort Edward to bring Stone for the Chimneys & to do every other work for w^{ch} they may be wanted & two here, they are to Load Fodder to maintain their Horses. You will when they are employed order them a suff^t. Guard.

I am sorry for the Enemys triumph by the Scalp they have taken. the Stupidity of our People & their constant disregard to Orders will give the Enemy these advantages, I apprehend their Scalping Parties will grow more & more thick upon us, I doubt not you will give the proper Orders & take all the precautions in your power. As to Scouts & Guards, I am quite of your Opinion, let us however do our Duty & the Enemy will punish them if they dont do theirs. As to the Plunder taken I refer the Disposition of it to your Orders.

By the Letters you sent me from Gov^r. Phipps I received his Orders in Consequence of a Vote of the Council & House of representatives, not to discharge any Man till further Orders, w^{ch} you will notice accordingly.

Col. Browne has received Complaints from his officers, that your Surgeon will not take Care of his Sick Men & that fresh Provisions are deny'd them. if they pretend Sickness to cover Laziness as I am convinced numbers here do, I applaud the Surgeons Honesty, & to such I would Order no Work no Victuals.

I am Sir

y^{rs}. &c.

To COL. GRIDLEY.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

TO COLONEL THATCHER

*Df.*¹*Camp at Lake George 5 Nov^r. 1755.*

SIR

As I understand you are the Eldest officer, I suppose my orders formerly sent to the Commanding officer of the Reinforcements at Albany rests with you, but I find Major Hazelton gives out the orders for the Guards for Waggon & all Convoys sent hither.

I expect that you take that Duty upon you & that you acquaint all Commissaries that when they have any Provisions or Stores to send off, to give you timely notice & that you do thereupon immediately order suff^t. Guards for the same by proportionable Detachments from the Massachusetts & Rhode Island Troops. And I desire you will acknowledge the receipt of this Letter by the first opportunity & conform to its Contents.

You are not to discharge or give a Furlough to any officer or Soldier belonging to the Massachusetts Troops till you receive my Orders for the same.

You are to wait on Sir Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York about a Company to be posted on the East or West side of the River at Saraghtoga & take his directions in that affair & act upon them & I desire you will show him this Letter.

I am Sir

Your hum Serv^t.

To COLONEL THATCHER at Albany.

TO CHARLES HARDY

There occur in the Johnson Calendar, p. 64 Johnson's letter of November 5th to Governor Hardy, inclosing affidavits of two wagoners, with the judgment of a council on the matters attested; a letter of the 5th from Dr Peter Middleton to Johnson, protesting against a ruling of a court of inquiry and asking a reexamination; and Captain Ichabod Phelps's report of the 6th regarding deserters in charge. They were destroyed by fire.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

FROM RICHARD SMITH

A. D. S.

Camp at Lake George Nov. 6, 1755

Return of Military Stores in <my possession> as p^r Order of major General Johnson Esq^r.

Cannon ball		Cannon
32 Pounders — 69		2 — 12 pounders Iron
18 ——— d ^o . 689		4 — 6 ——— d ^o . d ^o .
12 ——— d ^o . 201		4 — 6 ——— d ^o . Brass
6 ——— d ^o . 750		1 — 13 Inch Mortar Iron
grape Shott 132 charges		2 — 7 d ^o ——— d ^o ——— d ^o .
Cartridge 25 ——— d ^o .		2 — 9 Inch ——— d ^o . brass
13 Inch Shells 36		14 — carriage for different
7 & 9 ——— d ^o . 235		sized guns
4 boxes musk ^t . ball		2 — hand screws
10 casks wadding		6 — tannd hides
1/4 cask match		80 — Pick axes
white cordige expended		10 — Iron crows
Tarrd ——— d ^o . ——— d ^o .		6 — Lint Stocks
1 tin powder measure for 32		20 — Rammers & sponge staffs
Pounders		2 — gunners mallets
2 d ^o . ——— d ^o . ——— 18		4 — formers sized
pounders		7 — copper ladles sized
1 d ^o . ——— d ^o . ——— 12		6 — cartridge boxes
pounders		15 — crab hanspiks
2 d ^o . ——— d ^o . ——— 6		8 — reams cartridge paper
pounders		16 — Broad axes (Delivered
8 powder horns		all the spades, shovels, wood
10 priming wires		axes, deliverd to the people
2 pair brass calloper compasses		at Work on the two forts.
1 pair brass scales led & weight		What are lost, broke or
2 copper rammers to fill fuses		spoild, cannot Acc ^t . for till
400 fuses filld & primd		are returnd to the magazine

2 — cask nails	4 — Whip Sawes
8 — leather buckets	30 — Paint Polins
2 — Jinns & furneter	3 — bars steel
fourteen cannon	4 — d°. Iron
2 — 32-pounders Iron	Powder in y ^e magazine
2 — 18 ——— d°. d°.	whole Barrels — 14
	halfe — d°. 385
	Quarter Casks — 4

< 1 Hoit Burst in the ingagement

1 Jinn broke

RICH^d. SMITH Coms^{ty}. Military Stores >

INDORSEDS Return of Comms^{ys}. of
Military Stores

FROM CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN ET AL

Following the above return in the Johnson Calendar, p. 64 are these papers, which were destroyed by fire: Major Christopher Champlin's report of main and camp guards, dated November 6th; and a letter to Colonel Richard Gridley, of the 7th, from Johnson on a court of inquiry, custody of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gilbert, returns of garrisons and military stores for General Shirley, work on forts and naming of fort at Lake George (William Henry).

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 7. Novr. 1755.

SIR

In Compliance with your Excellencys order of the 5 Inst. I herewith transmit you

1. A General Return of the Troops under my Command at this place.
2. Copys of the several Commissaries returns of the Provisions in their hands.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

3. The Return from the Commissary of Military Stores. I have wrote to Col. Gridley Commanding officer at Fort Edward to transmit you Returns of that Garrison of Military Stores & Provisions there.
4. A Copy of the Minutes of the last Council of War.
5. A Copy of Capt. Dolittles Information of the Enemy at Tionderogo.
6. A Copy of Capt. Rodgers & Comp^s. report. I have had no Intelligence from Crown Point since the last I sent you.

Overlooking the Copy of my last Letter to y^r. Excell^y. I find there is a mistake in the number of Men fit for Duty. It should have been ab^t. 3500 of w^{ch}. about 800 calculated as Sick & unfit.

The Fort finishing here w^{ch}. I have named *William Henry* after Two of the Royal Family, if y^e Weather permits will I hope be speedily fit to receive a Garrison.

I have sent a reconnoitering Party to endeav^r. a view of the Enemys advanced Guard since Cap^t. Rodgerss Skirmish also Two Indians to Crown Point. I am Sir

Your Excellencys Most Obed^t. hum. Serv^t

To His Excellency

GENERAL SHIRLEY &c.

REPORTS AND MINUTES

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 64-65 by four papers which were destroyed: Michael Thodey's report of a scout toward Wood creek, dated November 8th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:277; Q, 4:179); James Connor's report of inspection of the enemy's advance guard, dated the 8th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:276; Q, 4:178-79); minutes of a council of war, held November 8th, touching dismissal of Connecticut and New Hampshire troops and movement against enemy; and Philip Lansingh's report of guards, dated November 9th.

TO BARON DIESKAU

*Df.*¹[*Camp at Lake George, Nov. 9, 1755*²]

SIR

My not being Master enough of the French Language, & having been for near 3 weeks confined, mostly to my Bed wholly to my Tent, with an Inflammation in the side of my head, has prevented me from putting those acknowledgments upon Paper w^{ch} my heart gave you for the honour You have repeatedly done me by your Letters.

I beg my very good Sir, that you will believe me when I assure you, that I have been that I am & always shall be unfeignedly anxious for the reestablishment of your Health & the perfect Cure of your Wounds.

I felt all those Inconveniences w^{ch} you suffered at Albany, & I lamented my want of Power to have instantly remedied them however I am greatly obliged to my Sis^r. that her Conduct was so agreeable to you & I shall ever esteem her the more for it.

I sincerely rejoice that your Spirits are revived & that you have such well grounded hopes of a Cure. You are in the hands of a Gentleman of whose Skill the world in general & myself in particular have a very high Opinion, & one who is capable of being the Agreeable Companion as well as the able Physician

You will see Sir by the dates of this Letter that I am where you left me a variety of Circumstances has occasioned it.

It is probable I shall soon be at New York, where the greatest pleasure I wish for, is to find you in health & Tranquility, towards w^{ch} I shall be always ambitious to contribute to the utmost Extent of my Abilities.

Capt Eyre is extreemly ill &, under the Apprehension of a Fistula he proposes to go down to New York as soon as possible in order to apply to & put himself under the advice & Directions of Dr. Magra.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Date supplied from Johnson to Magra, November 9, 1755.

Please Sir to accept of my most cordial good wishes & the most respectful salutations of Capt Wraxall my A D Camp. I have the honour to subscribe myself with perfect Esteem,

Sir

yrs &c.

My Comp^{ts}. to Mons^r. Bernier in w^{ch}. Mr. Wraxall joins me & desires the hon^r. of his Comp^{ts}. to Yourself

FROM RICHARD GRIDLEY

*A. L. S.*¹

Fort Edward Novem^r: 9th. 1755.

SIR—

I Receiv'd your favour of y^e: 7th. and have Transmitted to General Shirley a State of the Stores &c of this Garrison agreeable to your Order, tho' it was much against my inclination to write any more to him, for we never can agree till an alteration of Nature in one of us.—

Four waggons are come two of 'em I detain for drawing Stones for the Chimneys agreeable to your Order, I believe the Barracks will have the first Story finished tomorrow. I was out yesterday & hope in a few days to be able to tend it closely my self; & get it finished as soon as possible.

I am Glad Fort William & Henry is near finish'd.

I am wth Respects

Sir

Your Most Humb^l: Serv^t.

R: GRIDLEY

GENERAL JOHNSON

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

TO REDMOND MAGRA

*Df.*¹*Camp at Lake George, Nov. 9, 1755.*

DEAR DOCTOR

I was extreamly rejoiced to hear the Baron was under your Care Mr. Wraxall & I recommended him to your Skill at the first Interview we had with him. he is a worthy & an Amicable Man & I very much Interest myself in his Perfect Recovery, w^{ch} I find he hath now hopes of, & if possible I always had when he should come under your Care.

You will please to present him with the Inclosed Letter. I have told him you will translate it for him.

I salute you with my best Wishes

I am

Sir

Your very humser^t.

TO DOCTOR MAGRA.

INDORSED: Generals Letters to the
Baron Dieskau & Dr.
Magra 9 Nov^r. 1755

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹*Camp Lake George 9 Nov^r. 1755.*

SIR

By a Public Print from Boston which came hither this day we are informed that His Majestys Commission is arrived constituting Your Excellency Commander in Chief of all His Majestys Forces in North America, upon w^{ch}. I take this first Opportunity to congratulate you.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Last Night I held a Council of War & inclose your Excellency a Copy of the Minutes of the same together with Copies of the Resolves of the Gov^t. of Connecticut, of Gov^r. Fitchs Letter & of Connors Information mentioned in said Minutes. The Returns of the Commissaries were the same I sent you the 8 Inst. by w^h. upon Calculation it appeared we had not 4 days allowance of Bread in Camp.

This day I received a Letter from Lieu^t. Gov^r. Phipps with a Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Assembly & w^h. I find has been also transmitted to your Excellency.

I propose to lay it before a Council of War for their advice as to my proceedings in Consequence thereof, & shall advise you the result.

I wrote lately to S^r. Charles Hardy upon the Subject of Garrisoning Fort William Henry & Fort Edward. I think it proper for me to observe to your Excellency, that the present Temper & turn of the Troops under my Command & the general run of their officers, do in my Opinion render them improper Troops for such a Duty, & that unless they are formed on another Plan it will be an unadviseable Measure.

If I am to hold the Commission I received from General Brad-dock for the Sole Superintendency of Indian Affairs, I think from the present Face of public affairs & the Prospects before us, that the Public Interest & the Duty of that appointment call for my utmost attention & an immediate application to them only; I am convinced this is a critical Juncture w^{ch} if not properly improved will be of the utmost ill Consequence to the British Indian Interest. Thus Situated, the public Good & my Duty to His Majesty seems to require that I should surrender the honor conferred on me in the Command of this Army, and under these Considerations I am willing to relinquish my Military to attend to my Indian Department in w^h. I apprehend I shall be able more effectually to serve my King & Country.

Hereon I refer myself to Your Excellency & beg you will take these Matters into your Consideration & favour me with your Answer thereon.

Cap^t. Eyre is extreemly ill & quite incapable of doing any Duty & the Doctors tell me that to all appearance it will not be safe for him to venture.

Cap^t. Eyre for some time past has been much out of order; however he attended the works tho in constant pain. Two or three days ago he was unable to stir out & upon the Surgeons examining they found he had a Fistula & thought he might be safely cut here, w^{ch} he consented to upon Acc^t. of the Fort being now so far advanced that he could give verbal Directions for its Completion. He was cut this Morning the 10th. & is tollerably well after the operation.

The Connecticut Troops this Morning refused to do any Duty either to work at the Fort or to mount Guard. They say they cannot live upon a Biscuit a Day & half a pint of Flour w^{ch} is what they are allowed & that they want a Sauce to their Meat w^{ch} they are used to & cannot live without it. They were packing up to go off & some had actually got without the Breast work but were prevented from proceeding. As soon as I received notice of it, I sent for General Lyman & other Commanding officers. They told me that unless a certain number of Days were fixt for their working at the Fort & then that they should do no more but be discharged agreeable to the Orders of their Gov^{ts}. (w^{ch} I find the Men are all Acquainted with) they could not undertake to retain them in the Service. Upon this I told the Gentlemen to let them know, that if they would work 12 Days longer at the Fort & immediately conform to their Duty in all other respects, & that I had no orders to the contrary from their Gov^{ts}. I should dismiss them upon the Plan prescribed me. The Gentlemen are just gone & assure me that this Method will restore Obedience & Tranquility, but of that I am doubtful as I apprehend there are other Causes at the Bottom.

Major Hoare of Col. Ruggles's Reg^t. has made a Complaint to me of great injustice done him by Lieu^t. Col. Gilbert of the same Reg^t. & who I think from the state of the Case has behaved unworthy the Commission he bears I dont apprehend I have

power to punish him as he deserves. The Major has applied to me for leave to wait on y^r. Excellency & lay his case before you. He has shown himself a brave & active officer, so that not only Justice but his Merit induces me to grant his desire of going down & I refer y^r. Excellency to him for particulars.

I am Sir &c.

TO MAJOR GENERAL SHIRLEY &c.

TO MOSES EMERSON

A letter of November 10th from Johnson to Commissary Emerson, at Albany, on supplies of bread, and padlocks, and a report dated the 11th, of Indian scouts, Hendrick and Nicklas, after observations near Ticonderoga (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:278; Q, 4:180) follow the letter to Shirley in the Johnson Calendar, p. 65. Destroyed by fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

Albany Novem^r. 11 1755.

DEAR SIR

I wrote you a few days ago² you that Gen. Shirley was appointed Com^r. in chief: whether it is by any particular Commission & Instruct^s. I know not, it is an act however of the Regency, and will continue at least till the Kings arrival. It was absolutely necessary to remove all doubt by an actual placing of the Power in somebody this is done in a very ample manner to Gen Shirley — very little comes to my knowledge worthy yours — Some say 4 Reg^{ts}. are to come over, be that as twill it's in general expected that a Comm^r. in chief will be app^d. soon for America. I am of opinion the Breach between you is too wide to be heal'd, all I shall say on that Subject is that if it is not, & the Command rests where it is, the Public may, probably suffer by it. Were it my own Case as long as I continued in the Commⁿ.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Omitted in copying.

and any thing remain'd of the Fund, I would do what I could to keep up a good disposition in the Indians, and to induce them to go on Service when wanted, let who will be the Conductor of the Army or the director General — I cannot think he has Power, or if he had, that he would venture to supercede your Commission, if he does himself will feel the Injury rather than you, and till then it will be expected that you make the best use of the authority committed to you that the Circumstances of things will admit of. 'twould be a shocking thing that the Publick Good should be impeded by any difference between Persons intrusted with the power to promote it — this I fear, and hope you'll avoid as much as possible. I know your Views & actions concerning the Publick are as little directed by your own private views as it is possible for those of any Person to be. As Most People have this opinion of you whatever Provocations you receive, it will nevertheless be expected that you do not suffer your Resentm^t to get the better of your Publick Spirit. When things are better understood it will be known where the fault lies. I just now hear there are 3 Comm^{rs}. from Boston instructed not to suffer one of their People to go home, but to push on the Expedition. Tis not so much the want of Provisions, tho I believe there is a deficiency in that article, as the want of an Inclination to proceed; & I verily believe that if, after the Battle, you'd had every thing necessary, the army would not have proceeded. There are many who for want of being better inform'd think you, and not the army were averse to proceeding. I hear none of that opinion here. It is not a time now to refer to their opinion, but it should be a reason for your continuing to recommend the Reasons, as well as the Measures you propose. You were certainly right to consult on all occasions, but perhaps it had been better for the Common Cause if you had been guided by y^r. own Judgment, or at least have try'd your authority early. I hear the State & Condition of your army are demanded of you, as a Foundation for Orders for further Proceedings.

November 11th. I have kept the above in my Pocket these 5 days I believe for want of a good opportunity. The Powers granted Mr. Shirley are by act of the Regency till his Majesty's pleasure is known. The Sergeant to whom you gave a Letter lately for Sir Charles lost that and his Pack of Clothes together, so that there is no account from you of Rogers's Skirmish. However exaggerated his acco^{ts}. are thought here to be, every one says he is a bold useful man, and deserves well of the Publick. We heard that you were sending off 600 Men to the advanced Post. But no News we hear from the Camp is credited unless from yourself and you know you seldom write. If I have not already I intended to hint to you to order the Cask emty Casks to be preserved; in Case it should be thought proper to salt Beef at Fort Edward. Much is said here as to this Point; whether there is or not a practicable Road to be made from the Carrying Place to South Bay, and whether this is or not the best way to go to Crown Point. This was the way you said you would go. For this Reason some People think a Fort unnecessary at the Lake. I should be glad of your Sentiments on this Matter, and how far if you go through the Lake, the artillery & Stores must be carryed by Land, and whether in case the South Bay Road is practicable, we should not still be obliged to Land and drive the Enemy from Tionderoga, that is whether they could not otherways stop us here — Wou'd not the Narrows too, be a dangerous Post to remove an Enemy from. In short I mean your opinion whether the Lake or the other Passage is the best way — Comm^{rs}. from Conn^t. are here, those from Massachusetts are expected tomorrow. And then I suppose all Matter as to your ¹ will be settled.— when and not before Sir Charles will leave this Place.

I am d. Sir, yours most affectionately,

GW BANYAR

¹ Word omitted in copying.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

*Df.*¹*Camp at Lake George 11 Nov^r. 1755 —*

SIR

This morning about 19 or 20 Men of the New York Reg^t. mutined & marched off with their arms, they murmur at the badness of their Provisions, that their Months pay is due, that their Enlistments were expired & that their officers abused them. They were bro^t. back, I went out to them & so far answered their Objections that for this time they are pacified, but I fear tis but Fire covered with Ashes w^{ch} may soon break out again & as I dread from the Disposition of the Troops, that if these fellows should go off it would infect others & spread perhaps throughout the whole I would therefore desire that you will in case a party should go off from hence that when they come to Fort Edward you would turn out a proper account of y^r Garrison & make them Prisoners, I would not have you fire upon them so as to kill any unless absolutely necessary but endeav^r. all you can to intimidate and secure them & then send them with a Strong Guard hither

I am

Sir

y^r. humserv^t.

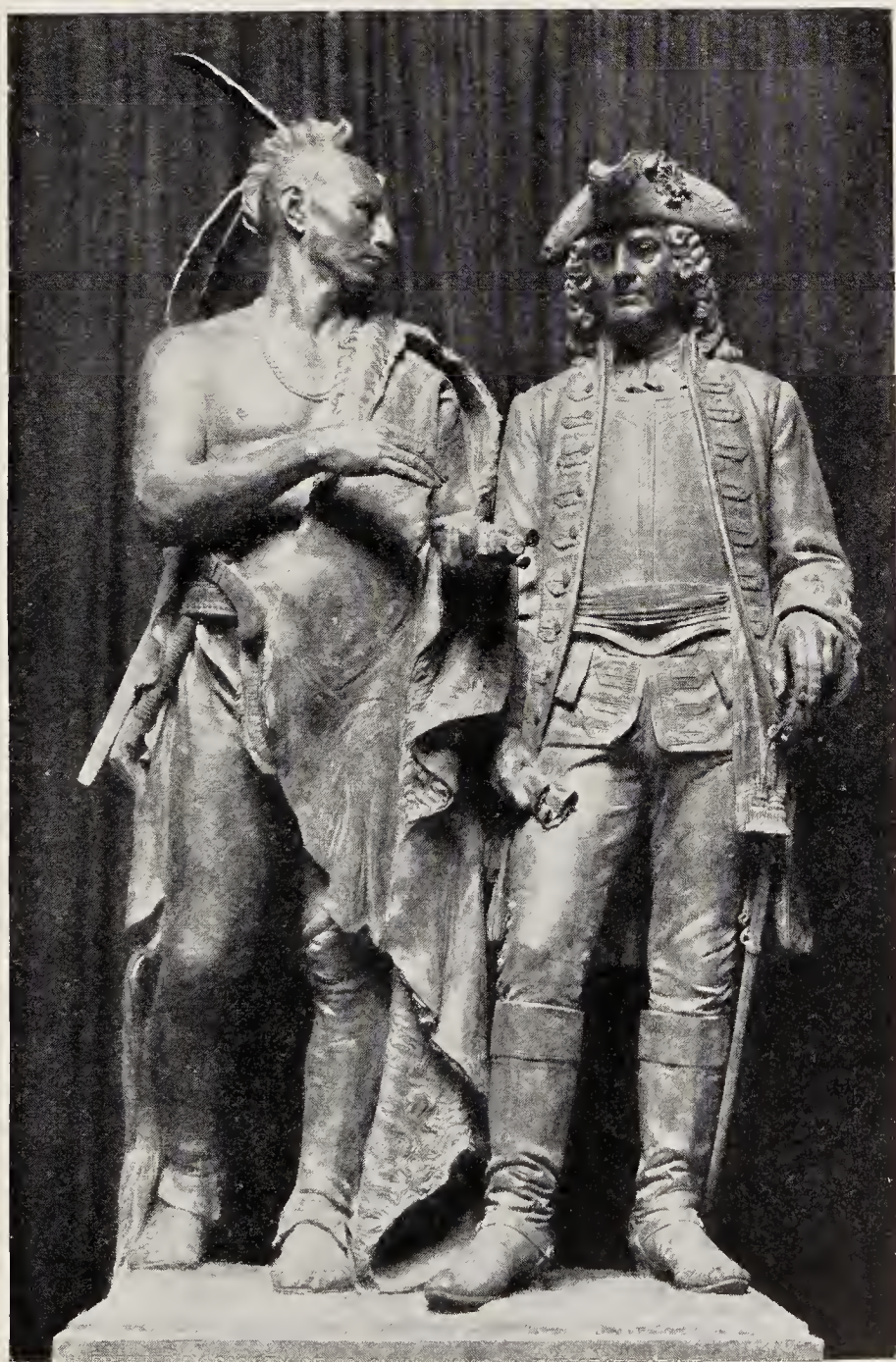
TO COLONEL GRIDLEY

Capt Wraxall rec'd the Inclosed Letter this Morning w^{ch} I think proper to send you The Writer came once up here with a Guard, Spoke to M^r Wraxall & desired he might be introduced to me w^{ch} M^r. Wraxall put off this is all he knows of him

TO COMMANDERS AT ALBANY

Johnson's order, dated November 11th, to commanders at Albany to march to the east side of the lake to meet the enemy, following the preceding in the Johnson Calendar, p. 65 was destroyed by fire.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.



HENDRICK AND SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

FROM THOMAS POWNALL

A. L. S.¹*Albany Novr. 11.—55*

MY DEAR SIR —

Lett me thank you for your late Letter & the very accurate account of the Rout from Ft Edward to the Mohawks. I beleive I shall be able to gett carryed into Execution the building a picquetted Magazine with a Garrison, by giving it in hints to other people who are willing to catch at anything upon which they can build a merit.—

I mentioned to S^r Charles Hardy, the matter Relative to the Canadien & French Prisoners, He is sorry that the giving them again is an after thought after they have had quarter once given them — but however if you will by yourself or the Indians make a formal demand of them he will lett them be delivered to you. I mention'd it also to the L^t Governor, he is of the same mind.— Sr Charles Hardy hopes & depends upon seing you as soon as you can be releived from y^r present Command, he has deferrd talking or corresponding with Gen^l Shirley on points of Indian Affairs till he sees you. He wishes, if you can possibly, that you woud come hither or to N York by the Mohawks away, that is to call upon them before you come here or to N York.—

It seems the French are reduced to the making a desperate push. They have and will have certainly some scheme to attack you by surprize or draw you unawares into some action; for God's sake suspect Every thing. Wherever you fight lett it be your own choice, not their force or artifice.

Things here are under strange confusion & military ² Service under much dissatisfaction. Pay ³ my Respects to Cap^t. Eyres

¹ In Ayer Collection, Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.

² This word is questioned in the copy.

³ This word is bracketed in the copy, as doubtful or supplied.

& all freinds, And wish you all success & happiness. I don't despair yet of seing you. I remain my Dear Sir, your most affectionate faithfull Servant.

T. POWNALL

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 11 Nov^r. Tuesday night

SIR

Just now Two Indians who set off some days ago for Crown Point are arrived & say they were prevented from proceeding by Discovering a Large Army of the Enemy on this side the Narrows on the East side the Lake. The chief of the Two is a Man I can depend on is a brave Indian & he is very positive in his Information & says our Troops here appear but a handful to them. Since these Indians came in, Capt Rodgers & his Party are arrived; they say they saw a very Large Smoke about that Place w^{ch}. the Indian describes, tho they were not as I understand so near as the Indian.

By the Advice of the Commanding Officers here, I send your Excellency this Express & inclose you My Order to the Commanding Officers of the Reinforcements at Albany to march hither with all possible Dispatch, w^{ch} I beg you will circulate amongst them without delay, & We hope you will Order the Regular Troops to our Assistance. Whether they propose an Attack upon Fort Edward or here is uncertain. I have given Col. Gridley Notice & directed him to take every necessary Measure.

I am

Sir

yr Excellencys Most Obed^t. hum Serv^t.

To His Excellency

GENERAL SHIRLEY &c.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

Johnson's letter of November 11th to Colonel Richard Gridley, on the nearness of the enemy and need of good management, following the foregoing letter in the Johnson Calendar, p. 65 was destroyed by fire.

FROM SIR THOMAS ROBINSON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1020, is a letter, of November 11th, from Sir Thomas Robinson, at Whitehall, notifying Johnson that he has been raised to the dignity of a baronet.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

[*Albany*] Nov. 12, 1755.

The Commⁿ: are expected hourly. You see the necessity of employing a number of Parties as well to prevent the Enemy intercepting your Provisions as to be some little Cover to the Country. No one would imagine you are in great want of Prov^s. As the Council of War thinks proper to detain all the Men there, this Measure I apprehended would long since have reduced them to actual Want. One convoy intercepted, will drive you to great Streights. What method do you think best to get Prov^s. up the next Winter. Sho'd not Pork be sent from N Y to this Place before the winter sets in, in order to be sent in slays when the Snow permits. Cannot you find means to keep a small Party going between the Camp & Fort Edward, & between that & Albany in order to carry your dispatches. The Commⁿ. &c. will in a few days I suppose settle what is to be come of your Forces.

Yⁿ.

GW BANYAR

¹Original destroyed by fire.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

Df.¹*Camp at Lake George 12 Novembr. 1755.*

SIR

Since my dispatches last night, there are Contradictions between the Indian accot. & Cap^t. Rogers & his party who went out Separately on different Sides of the Lake. Cap^t. Rogers is positive the Enemy are at Tenonderogo, the Indians as positive they are between this & the Carrying place, & are a Prodigious Body.— You will dispatch the inclos'd to General Shirley either by some Brisk men to Seraghtoga, & they to Send it forward, or a Horseback as you will think best, I leave it to you but would not have a moments delay, but let it go forward with the utmost dispatch; you will keep a good look out a party advanc'd on this road will I think be proper; God knows whether the Enemy will Visit us or not, & w^{ch}. of us first, so that no precautions are to be omitted; I have order'd all the Reinforcements with as much provision as they can carry, to March Instantly, if you find needfull you may Reinforce yt Garrison, I am greatly hurried

Sir &c

please to send me a Copy of mine last night & this Letter for I have no time to take Copies

To Colo. Gridley

a True Copy

R: GRIDLEY

LETTERS TO AND FROM JOHNSON

The preceding letter was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 66 by Thompson and Connor's report of scouting, written November 13th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:279; Q, 4:180); Lieutenant Peiter Becker's report of scouting to eastward dated the 13th (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:278; Q, 4:180); minutes, of the 13th, of a council of war, relating to an entrenchment around Fort William Henry and despatches to Albany; and Johnson's letter, of the 13th, to General William Shirley regarding information given by scouts. Destroyed by fire.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

MOHAWKS TO ARENT STEVENS¹

Connajoharie 12th. Novr. 1755.

DEAR BROTHER STEVENS.

This is to acquaint you that there is a Post from Oneida who informs us, that there is an Onondaga Indian from Oswegatie, who tells us that the French Governor made Inquiry of the Indians who had taken the French General Prisoner, upon which they answered the Oneidas. O says he, that is all I want to know, I can take them likewise, I have Snow Shoes & every other Necessary for that purpose.

And therefore with this Belt of Wampum the Oneidas request General Johnson & General Shirley at once to build a Fort at Oneida if they please, and immediately to put Men into it for their protection and they desire likewise that they would supply them with Cannon Powder & Ball. Now Brethren protect us all and that as speedily as possible, and pray dont forget to acquaint General Johnson, and we desire an Answer directly. We have sent the News every where and to Onaquage. Nothing More, but we are

Yours &c
RONDADIKAS X mark
BRANDT'S X mark
NICHOLAS'S X mark
PAULUS PETERS

P: S: We desire to know by the first Opportunity whether we are to have a Fort or not.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹*Camp at Lake George 12 Nov^r. 1755*

SIR

The Express with my Letters last night set off about 12 oClock when the Letters were sealed & every thing ready for their Departure. Cap^t. Rodgers came in & told us that upon further Consideration & comparing the Indians account with his own Discoveries, he was persuaded the Army the Indian had seen was at Tionderogo. The Indian was called in & confidently assured us he was so well acquainted with Tionderogo & the Country thereabouts & had so clear a View of the Enemy that he could not be mistaken. Rodgers grew as positive on his side. I again put it to the several officers present whether any alteration should be made in my Letters. it was unanimously agreed they should go as they were & they urged me not to keep the Express a moment longer, One Gentⁿ. indeed said he would not give any Opinion the positiveness & contradiction on both sides appeared so equally strong.— the other Indian, a younger one, confirmed his Companions Act. with equal warmth.

After the Express went, I sat up till near 3 this Morning with both the Indians, minutely examined them, compared all Circumstances they continued unvariably positive. Early this Morning I talked to Rodgers; he still persists the Indians are mistaken, that he counted 150 odd Tents at Tionderogo, saw an Indian Encamp^t. hear them Dance &c. & this the same day the Indians say they saw the Encamp^t. this way & heard a great number of Drums beat, the Indians saw also their Fires by night w^{ch}. in Number & largeness exceeded they say all they ever saw & made it as Light as day, that there was no End of their Numbers —

Immediately upon the Indian News I dispatched a party for observation towards where the Indians place their Discovery —

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

This Morning early Two Indians 3 Indian officers & an able Woodsman with 2 or 3 of our People set off to reconnoitre. Two days ago our usual Scout of 30 Men marched for South Bay Wood Creek & to the Narrows in the drowned Lands with Orders upon Discovering any Body of the Enemy to dispatch a Brisk hand or two hither & to Fort Edward. We have no Intelligence as yet from them.—For my part I was puzzled last Night I remain so still. If my Opinion leans any Way it is in favour of Cap^t. Rodgers for unless the Enemys Motions are very slow I think we should at least have heard from our Scouts who marched two days ago. and yet when I reflect on the general Behaviour of our own People I cannot fully depend on their Alertness.

As I was pressed by the Officers last Night to mention their hopes, that the Regular Troops might come to our assistance & as I am sensible it may be attended with many Inconveniences & that the Scarcity of Provisions here particularly Bread may make a precipitate March of Bad Consequence I think it proper without taking any further Advice to lay matters before your Excellency in the most concise & yet clearest manner I am able & wholly to refer the Issue to Your Excellency — The Provincial Reinforcements I would by all means have march with the utmost Dispatch & the Commissaries send forward without delay all the Provisions they possibly can

I am

Sir

Your Excellencys Most obed^t hum Serv^t.

INDORSED: General's Letter to Gen^l.

Shirley — 12 Nov^r. 1755.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY¹*Albany Nov^r: 13th. 1755.*

SIR

Yesterday in the Afternoon I receiv'd your Letter of the 11th Instant by Express giving an Account of the Discovery of a large Body of French on the East side of Lake George advancing towards your Camp. Upon the Receipt of it Orders were immediately given to the Commanding Officers of the Provincial Troops rais'd for the Reinforcement of the Army under your Command, w^{ch} are quarter'd about this Place to collect their respective Corps forthwith in order to march wth. all Dispatch to your Assistance, each Man to carry with him as much provisions & ammunition as he can speedily march with.

Accordingly I expect that 800 of those Troops will march this morning, and the remainder, w^{ch} by advice of the Gov^{rs}. & Field Officers of the Regular Troops now here are reserv'd to escort as large a Quantity of Provisions for the Subsistence of your Army as all the Waggon & Horses, that can be immediately procur'd by Sir Charles Hardy upon this Emergency, can carry: and I hope they will follow the first Division of the Troops in twenty four Hours.

Upon this Occasion I have determin'd to send a Detachment of 500 of the Regular Troops now here to strengthen you further, w^{ch} shall proceed to the Army, as soon as a Body of the like Number of Militia shall be rais'd here to proceed with them as Scouts & Rangers in their March & Guides thro the Country.

I hope this Reinforcement will be sufficient for your Support against any Attack, w^{ch} the Enemy may make upon you: and doubt not but you will be able soon to give a good Account of them: I wish you all imaginable Success, and am,

Sir,

Your most Humble Servant.

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

TO REINFORCEMENTS

Johnson's order, of November 13th, to reinforcements to hasten their march from Albany to camp, following the preceding letter in the Johnson Calendar, p. 66, was destroyed by fire.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

*Df.*¹

Camp Lake George 15 Novr. 1755.

SIR

Please to forward the Letter herewith immediately by an officer & 12 or 13 Men to Seraghtoga, where a Party are to take them forward to Albany without the least delay.

One of Scouts to South Bay discovered a very late Tract of Four going towards Fort Edward. I am convinced the Enemy extreamly want a Prisoner & I beg you will prevent straggling all in your power & no parties under five to go out. please to advertise them hereof at Seraghtoga.

No Discoveries since my last.

I am

Sir

Your most Obed^t Serv^t.

TO COLONEL GRIDLEY

WILLIAM SHIRLEY AND OTHERS TO ONEIDAS¹

Albany Novr. 15th. 1755.

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy yesterday Communicated to the General a Letter he had received by Mr. Stevens and three Indians, from the Conajoharie Castle, containing a Message from the Oneida Indians, requesting that a Fort might be immediately built at their Castile, that they might have some Cannon & Ammunition and that some white men might be posted there for the defence of it.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

Whereupon there was a meeting at 10 oClock this Morning at the General's.

Present

His Excellency General Shirley

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy

The Hon^{ble}. James DeLancey Esq^r.

The Hon^{ble}. Thomas Pownal Esq^r.

The Messengers were called in and the following Message delivered to them in Writing and explained to them by the Interpreter.

Brothers of the Oneida Nation

I have heard the Message from you, directed to myself and General Johnson, which was forwarded to me thro the Mohawks Castle, and in Answer thereto do now inform you, that before I came to the Carrying place in my way from Oswego, I had heard that you had desired a Fort should be built at your Castle, and I thereupon ordered about 20 Men from Burnetsfield to go to build it, and I was afterwards told, that the Men were gone to your Castle to build it. I shall now write to Cap^t Williams at the Carrying place and to Justice Petri, that if the Men are not yet gone to send them Immediately. I shall also send you a good officer with 30 Soldiers and two great Guns with Powder and Shott, and every thing else necessary for your defence.

Brothers, be not dismayed at the French, they want to frighten you, and to turn your faces from fighting against them, and to keep you at home least you should do them harm, you may depend upon it, that I shall do all in my power to defend you, and all my Brothers of the Six Nations and I shall let our Brother General Johnson know the Message you have sent, he is at present fighting against ours & your Enemies the French, and he will do all in his power also to you and all our Brethren.

With this Belt of Wampum I confirm all I have said.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*L. S.*¹

Albany, Novr. 15th. 1755.

SIR

I have nothing to add to the inclos^d,² but to desire that you will let me know, as soon as possible, what you now apprehend to be the Strength and Situation of the Enemy, and likewise the State of your army if you have any thing to add to the last Accounts you transmitted to me.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Humble Servant,

W SHIRLEY

P. S. His Majesty's Service will not permit me to accept of your Military Commission before this Campaign is over.

INDORSED: General Shirleys Letter
to General Johnson with
Indian Papers abt. Fort
at Oneida.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 15 Novr. 1755

SIR

The Two Battoes with officers w^{ch} Informed Your Excellency in my last of the 13 Inst I had dispatched upon further Discovery of the Enemy, returned the next Morning; they went about 12 or 14 Miles down the Lake to the first Narrows. They dis-

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Oneidas to Stevens, November 12, 1755, and Shirley and others to Oneidas, November 15, 1755.

covered several Smoaks; saw a Birch Canoe paddle very swiftly to an Island on the East side, near to which they were & where there appeared a small Fire — A Whistle was given upon which the Fire was put out — they found they were discovered, lay upon their Oars a while to consult & look round them — they judged it not safe to proceed & returned hither about 4 oClock Yesterday Morning. I then sent out another Scout to go down the Lake in a Battoe about 6 miles, to Land on the West side travel about 8 Miles by Land, get upon an Eminence & make what Observations they could. They returned Yesterday afternoon, say they saw the smoak as it were of expiring Fires on the East side, but discovered no Canoes or any People. Another Land Scout from the N. E. returned Yesterday Evening say they saw a pretty large smoke to the S. E. of the Mountain where they posted themselves. Several other Scouts have returned but made no Discoveries w^{ch} clear matters up, or serve to give a detirminate Opinion. perhaps before Noon or in the Afternoon I expect the return of some Indian officers Two Indians & some of our People, who I sent to South Bay, Wood Creek & across the Mountains 3 days ago. I propose to keep this Letter in expectation of Intelligence from them.

When Cap^t. Rodgers had the Skirmish with the Enemys Advanced party he told me he heard Two Alarm Cannon fired at Tionderogo. I find upon looking over his Written Report he has omitted this Circumstance. he persists that he was not mistaken but very plainly heard the Cannon. Now I apprehend, that upon this alarm the Enemy assembled at Crown Point & from all parts of the Country that way, marched to Tionderogo, imagining our Army was coming forwards, posted themselves in some advantageous Pass to oppose us, and that this was the Army the Indians saw, for I cannot bring myself to think they were mistaken, the oldest of them to this Moment is as positive as ever with regard to the greatness of the Fires & that he clearly saw a vast number of Tents. Whether that Army remains, is broke up upon further Discovery that this Alarm was groundless

or are taking Measures to Attack us, which of these is the Case, I will not pretend to determine. perhaps before the close of this Day some of our Scouts may help us to form some more certain judgment.

By Advice of a Council of War we have moved our Artillery over to Fort William Henry & most of them are mounted there. We have almost finished a double Entrenchment round the Fort have removed thither our Powder Military Stores & Provisions. And propose if the Numbers of the Enemy should equal our Intelligence that upon their coming to attack us, we will make our Stand there, which we judge will be more safe & formidable than in this Camp. in the other Case our Force must have been divided, it was suspected (& I believe with reason) that our Men wou'd most of them have run to the Fort. and besides this Measure will probably Baffle the Schemes of an Attack w^{ch} the Enemy may have formed, supposing to have disputed the Point in our Encamp^t. here.—

About one oClock the Party I sent to South Bay, returned they went round the Bay & 10 to Wood Creek neither discovered the Enemy nor the Traces of any except a Party of about 4 very lately passed towards Fort Edward. a Scout down the Lake also return discovered a Fire where the others did of yesterday heard 3 Indians whoop on the East side, whistling on an Island saw Two Canoes who made from them.

The Fort is in a finishable Condition. Two Ranges of Barracks built but we are distressed for boards to floor them. when compleated they will contain —— Men. The Timber is getting for another Barrack. The Connecticut Troops are determined not to stay longer than their 10 days w^{ch}. expire next Wensday & I am affraid their going off will spread a general Inclination thro the rest to do the same, particularly the New York Reg^t. part of w^{ch} actually set off a few days ago & with the utmost Difficulty I prevailed on them to stay a little longer. they alledge their enlistments are out & also demand their Pay w^{ch} was due the first of this Month. We have not in the whole more than 3 days

Meat & Bread in the Camp & unless speedily supplied dread the Consequences will be extreamly fatall.

To His Excellency

GENERAL SHIRLEY &c.

J. C. MAINE TO PETER WRAXALL

Following the foregoing in the Johnson Calendar, p. 66, is a letter, of November 15th, from J. C. Maine to Wraxall, in which his release from custody at Fort Edward is asked. Destroyed by fire. On the same page are three papers, of November 16th, which were destroyed by fire: orders to Lieutenant Richard Rogers to reconnoiter Ticonderoga and Crown Point (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:281; Q, 4:182); a letter to Colonel Richard Gridley concerning J. C. Maine's case, lack of news by scouts, and guards; and a letter to Governor Hardy about reports of scouts, information brought from Canada by an Onondaga Indian, inability to devote time to Indian affairs, and a proposal to send militia.

TO ISRAEL PUTNAM

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 16 Nov^r. 1755

TO CAPT. PUTNAM

You are to proceed with the Party under your Command in a Battoe as far down the Lake towards the Enemys advanced Party as you find you prudently can. then land on the East side & take a View round about if you can discover any considerable Encampment of the Enemy. if so to make the most exact discovery you can of their Numbers &c. If you discover no Encampment thereabouts proceed to Tionderogo & make the best Discoveries you can there & return hither as soon as possible.

Given under my hand at the

Camp at Lake George 16 Nov^r. 1755

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George Sunday Morning 16 Nov^r. 1755.

SIR

Yesterday afternoon I dispatched a Letter to your Excellency by a Party to Fort Edward, to be immediately forwarded from thence to Saraghtoga from thence to Albany. No further Intelligence concerning the Enemy hath since arrived. A party went yesterday with orders to Scout to South Bay & down Wood Creek. In the Evening I sent a Party with 3 Battoes down the Lake to make & push for all the Discoveries they could.

This Morning about 2 oClock I received by Express Your Excellencys Letters of the 13 Inst.

As none of our various Scouts have brought any Intelligence w^{ch} clear up the Contradictions between the Indians & Cap^t Rodgers's I grow more & more inclined to believe the Indians were under a mistake (or that the Army they saw advanced is retreated to Tionderogo).

The Three Battoes I sent down the Lake yesterday Evening are this Minute come in sight. I will detain the Express to send you their Report.

Two of the said Battoes are come in (the other was one sent from the Works) the Third Battoe with the officer of the party & 9 Men they left determined to proceed upon discovery, there not being Provisions enough for them all. They went about 16 or 17 Miles down the Lake & discovered nothing.

Two Indians 1 Indian officer & Two others are now going off for Tionderogo to discover the posture of the Enemy, & if the Army is not there or advanced on this side are to proceed to Crown Point for future Discovery.

¹Original destroyed by fire.

If any fresh Intelligence of importance arrives I will dispatch an account of it by Express to your Excellency.

I am Sir

Your Excellencys Most Obed^t. hum Serv^t.

To His Excellency

GENERAL SHIRLEY &c.

FROM DAVID WATERBURY AND ELIPHALET FALES

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 67 are found Lieutenant David Waterbury's report, dated November 17th, of a scouting expedition (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:280-81; Q, 4:181-82); and Captain Eliphalet Fales's report of scouting, also of the 17th (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:283; Q, 4:183). Both were destroyed by fire.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF PROVINCIAL OFFICERS

Copy ¹

[*Albany*²], Nov. 17, 1755

At a Meeting at His Excellency Major General William Shirley's the 17: Nov^r: 1755. 6 oClo. P. M.

Present

His Excellency Major Gen^l. Shirley

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy

The Hon^{ble}. James Delancey Esq^r.

The Hon^{ble}. Thomas Pownal Esq^r.

The Hon^{ble} John Rutherford

The Hon^{ble}. Daniel Horsmanden

The Hon^{ble}. James Minot

John Choat Esq^r.

Oliver Partridge Esq^r.

Sam^l. Leveredge Esq.

Benjamin Hall Esq^r.

John Hubbard Esq^r.

{ Commissioners from
the province of the
Massachusetts Bay

Commissioners from the
Colony of Connecticut

Voted.

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² Place supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

That it be recommend as the Opinion and Advise . . . ¹
of the Members of this Meeting, that the Army under the Com-
mand of Major Gen^l. Johnson, do advance against the Enemy,
and attempt to remove them from their encroachments as far as
they are able at this Season.

above Copy from the Minutes

WM ALEXANDER Secy.

PROCEEDINGS OF COURT OF INQUIRY

D. S.²

Proceeding of a Court of Inquiry held at Fort Edward Monday
November the 17 1755 By order of the Commander of the Said
Fort

Present

Capt^t Thaxter President

Leiu^t Burbeck

Leiu^t Powers

Leiu^t Talbot

Leiu^t Clark

} Members

Complaint Exhibitted By Cap^t Moses Deshon who was Cap^t of
the pickett found on the Sixteenth Instant Against Mathew
Bright John Mahar Francis Conner David Anderson James
Baker Thomas Morgan James Powers. For deserting the Fort
on the Lord day and treating the Said Cap^t and officers with
Disrespectfull Language and using many profane Speeches
when the Said Cap^t was bringing them disarmed into the fort

The Prisoners being Called and asked whether they ware Guilty
of ³ Not they Reply'd Not Guilty

¹ Omitted in copying; probably omitted by Alexander.

² Original destroyed by fire.

³ This word plainly should be "or."

On which the Court proceeded to Try and Called the Evidences.

Evidences	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Ensign Blake} \\ \text{Sergt. Standley} \\ \text{Edward Worster} \\ \text{Cornelius Annibal} \end{array} \right.$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{By whose Evidences we} \\ \text{find the above Prisoners} \\ \text{Guilty as followeth} \end{array} \right.$
-----------	---	--

Mathew Bright John Mahar Francis Conner Guilty of deserting the fort on the Lord Day of profane Swareing & treating their Superior officers with Disrespectfull Language and threatening the Said officers when disarmed if they had their arms would not be so disarm'd again by the Said officers. David Anderson Guilty of deserting the fort on the Lord day and Treating his Superior officer with ill Language by telling him he was a dam Liar Thomas Morgan James Baker Guilty of deserting the fort on the Lord day and when order'd back by the guards behaved themselves disrespectfully unto their Superior officers. James Powers guilty of deserting the fort on the Lords day.

For which Crimes wee order'd them Back unto their place of Confinement and their to Continue until the morrow Ten of the Clock in the forenoon and then to be Conveigh'd unto the place of Correction and their to receive their punishment as followeth

Mathew Bright, John Mahar Francis Conner Each Receive thirty Nine Stripes on their naked Backs with a whip or Birch

David Anderson Receive fifteen Stripes on his Naked back with a whip or Birch

James Baker Thomas Morgan To Ride the wooding horse one hour Each

James Powers To pay twelve pence Sterling

all which we Humbly Submitt unto your Honnours Consideration

From your Honnours Humble Servant

SAMUEL THAXTER President

GEORGE BRAMAN'S TESTIMONY

Testimony of George Braman at Fort Edward, against a prisoner by name of "Whetmore," dated November 17th, in the Johnson Calendar, p. 67, was destroyed by fire.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY AND SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George

Monday Morning 17 Nov^r. 1755.

SIR

The Connecticut Troops have flatly refused to go out on the 5 days Scout towards South Bay & Wood Creek w^{ch} was marched this Morning. they say their time is out on Wensday & they will stay no longer. Their Feild officers have been with me & tell me they have used all their Influence but in Vain. When they go off I fear the New York Reg^t. will not stay & that the Infection will spread amongst the rest of the Troops. We have not more Meat & Bread than will serve the Troops here one day in short there is a general Dissatisfaction w^{ch} I affraid may produce Consequences the most distressing & fatal. I have suspected these things for some time past but General Lyman in particular & several other officers in general when I have suggested my Apprehensions have glossed things over & represented the Mens Inclinations in such favourable Lights as did in some Measure lead me to think I was mistaken in my Suspicions. in my Opinion no time is to be lost in falling on Measures to Serve² His Majestys Two Forts our Artillery & its Stores. And I am

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Evidently this word should be "save."

clearly of Opinion that from present Appearances, it will not be adviseable to depend on the Provincial Troops for these Garrisons.

I am

Sir

Your Excellencys Most Obed^t. hum Serv^t.

TO GENERAL SHIRLEY

&

SR. CHARLES HARDY.

Since writing the above Col. Whitcomb of a Massachusetts Reg^t. has been with me & says it was with the utmost Difficulty that he & his chaplin prevented the Reg^t. from marching off to day & thinks he shall not be able to retain them tomorrow.

LETTERS TO AND FROM JOHNSON

A letter to Johnson from William Alexander, dated November 17th, inclosing minutes of a council of governors and commissioners held at Albany, and asking report of action thereon, follows the foregoing letter in the Johnson Calendar. It is followed by Israel Putnam and Stephen Schuyler's report of a scout to South bay, dated the 18th (printed in *Doc. Hist., N. Y.*, 4:279-80; 4:181); and Johnson's letter, of the 18th, to inhabitants of Suffolk county, acknowledging donation of fat cattle, with a note to George Muirson. Destroyed by fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

Albany 18 Nov^r. 1755.

MY DEAR SIR

I am favour'd with your Letter of the 10 — and have just now seen your Letter to Sir Charles of the 16, with Extracts of yours to the General of the 9th — I have seen too the Letter to you in

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Consequence of the Opinion of the Grand Meeting held last Night which lasted till this Morning, there's nothing more in it than was recommended by the Gov. & Council by the Report of the 1st. & the Minute of the 27 Oct. But I observe it leaves a hole for the Council of War to creep out at, if it should be *possible* to proceed. Today I understand the Gen. has agreed to garrison the two Forts at the Kings Expence, but with Irregulars. I suppose he'll appoint officers. It was urged it might be a disappointment the next year, if Regular Troops were sent.

It was yesterday given out in Orders that a New Regiment was to be raised, & Cap^t. Bradstreet to be L^t. Colonel of it. Kenier¹ is promoted to the Rank of Major. I hear nothing of tother Regiment that is to be raised, it's said. Some suspect the Jersey Troops are to be taken into one of the two Regim^{ts}.

The Promotion of Bradstreet gives great Chagrin to the European Majors. There's some Secret in this affair, for a few Months ago the General & Bradstreet were on no good Terms. He now aims at the Superintendency of Indian affairs at least as to the foreign & uppermost 3 of the five Nations. It's said the Commission to you should be of a different Nature, I suppose to make room for other Persons. I was told lately you had rece'd £5000 Sterl^g on account of Indian affairs 2 from Braddock the rest from his Successor, I imagine the £1600 Gen Shirley paid you & what you recived from our Province on acco^t. of the Expedition is meant. Much is said to lessen the Merit of your Service, and great Fault found at your not proceed^g. the Blame of which is industriously thrown upon you. And so little do that Party think that the Publick have Reason to ask or wonder why the Niagara Expedition did not go on, that it is said "It's surprizing they could do so much." I am apprehensive you may be under a necessity of justifying yourself to the Blame of others. We shall if it be possible see you at New York. For if your Indids²

¹ James Kinneer, major of 50th regiment?

² Indians.

Fund is Exhausted I doubt you'll get no further Supply. You are not sworn as a Counciler, nor have you seen Sir Charles, who's much yo^r. Freind & greatly wishes to see you. The Meeting of the Governors is appointed for the 1st. decem. at N York — Sir Charles will certainly leave this Place on the 20th.:— wind & weather permitting; and the General talks of embarking two days afterwards. As to other Politicks — the Scheme of operations is to be settled. There is no prospect of much unanimity, nor do I think the proper ¹ will be formed as soon as they ought to be. Some expect — many hope, and, it may be apprehended, a few dread the Arrival of a New General. God send it, and give you Health.

I am Dr. Sr.

yours most affectionately

GW BANYAR

I was told the Presents for the Western Ind^s. arrived to late at Oswego, & that all or most of them are left there. The Oneidas sent a Message lately desiring a Fort may be built in their Country. It is ordered and to be garrisoned w^h Regulars — If the Gen^l. does not secure Ind: Scouts, think of doing it if you can & represent to the Ind^s. the necessity of this Measure for the Security of the Fort at the Lake which covers them in some Measure. They must be on the Watch too as they expect a Snow Shoe Attack. I hear a Survey is to be made under the direction of the Engineers from Fort Edward to Wood Creek & South Bay to discover if there be a practicable Road to be made that Way. In this Case they should have 8 or 10 trusty Indians, such as you can recommend and procure for them. It's said by the General that there's not a practicable Road from the N. End of the Lake to Tionderoga I mean that Carrying Place. I should not be surprized if some Regulars should be still ordered up either as an Eschort to the Engineers or as a Garrison, or both perhaps.

¹ Omitted in copying.

Musket Ball & Flint are sent. Mr. Pownalls opinion is that we might avoid Tionderoge by leaving it on the Right & making a Road from the N End of the Lake to the Fort at Crown Point, About 12 or 14 miles. In this Case we must raise our Cannon Stores & Waggon's by Takles a considerable heighth from the Lake. One Division should march first with whatever is absolutely necessary and invest the Fort; the other bring up the artillery & Baggage after them. The Road he thinks may be practicable soon for Carriages. But it must be examined, to see whether it be so or no: none but Indians can do this: The Men can march on the West side the Lake, till they come to the Bay there to be ferryed over thence to the further End where the Road is to begin. The Passage for the Waggon's Horses and Stores must be by water through the Lake in Scows.— or Flatts and Batoes. I think the whole will be attended with too great difficulties. And as we can probably move before the French can, we may go the way you intended. I send you Mr. Pownal's Sketch of this Matter. I believe it will go hard with you soon for want of Prov^s: all useless Hands should be dismissed, & as many as can be spared sent to Fort Edward to save Carriage to the Lake. Do not suffer the Fort & artillery & Stores to be in any danger. The two Reg^{ts}. consist of about 1100, 500 are to be sent to Schenectady, the rest to be kept here, in Barracks, & Block-houses fitted up to receive them.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.¹*Camp at Lake George 18 Novr. 1755. A. M.*

Head Quarters

At a Council of War held by General Johnson

Pres^t.

The General

Major General Lyman

Capt Eyre

Col. Plaisted

Cap^t. Glazier

Col. Harris

Col. Cockcroft

Col. Bagly

Peter Wraxall Secr^y.

Col. Dyer

Col. Chauncey

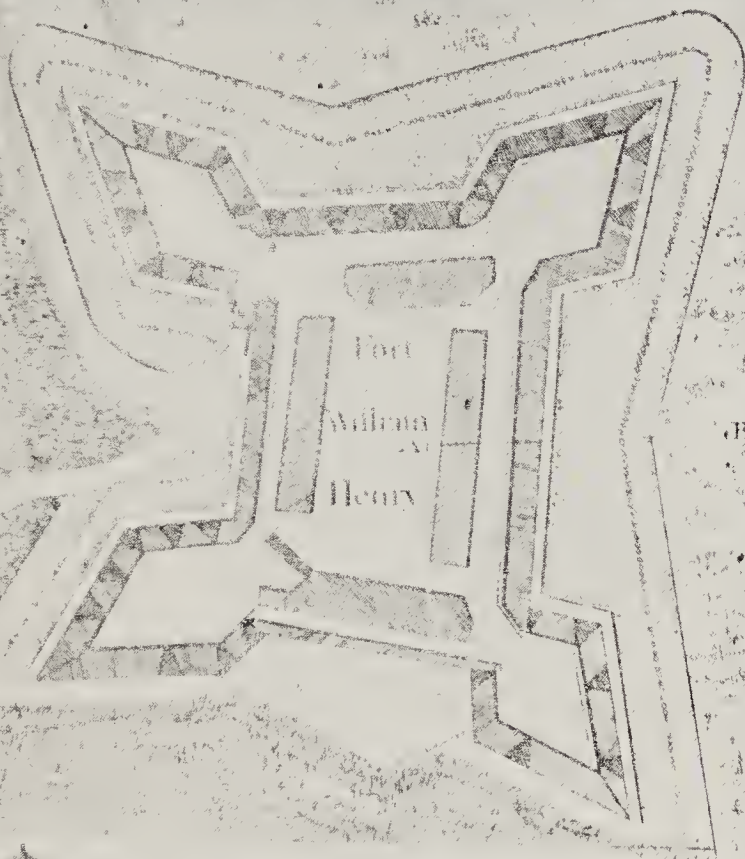
Lieut Col. Whiting

Lieut Col. Cummins

The General having been apprized by several of the Field Officers of the Connecticut Troops that the said Troops insisted on their Dismission from this Service agreeable to the Votes of their Legislature & the Generals Promise to them, the Day after tomorrow. The General desired the Opinion & advice of this Council of War what measures were most adviseable to pursue with regard to the Quota of Connecticut for Garrisoning Fort William Henry & Fort Edward & for retaining the other Troops, in case they should refuse to stay as it is apprehended they will when the Connecticut Troops march off —

¹ Original destroyed by fire. There is a copy in Public Record Office, C. O. 5.17, London, England; transmitted by Governor Hardy November 27th.

Plan of the Fort



Notes on the Plan
The fort was built on a hill
The bastions were built of stone
The ramparts were built of earth
The fort was surrounded by a ditch
The fort was defended by a garrison
The fort was captured by the British
The fort was destroyed by the British

Section through A-B



A Scale of the Profile



The Question was put what number of Men this Council of War thought sufficient to Garrison Fort William Henry & Fort Edward

500 Voted for Fort William Henry

400 Voted for Fort Edward.—

The Question was put whether the General be advised to send a Gentleman from this Army to Albany to represent to the Gov^{rs}. & Commissioners there the State of this Army & to know their resolutions as to the future Destination thereof.

Unanimously resolved in the affirmative & that Col. Chauncey & Col. Whitcomb do go down upon this Errand.

Voted that this Council of War understand that the Dismission of any part of this Army shall be suspended till some detirminate Orders arrive from the Commissioners at Albany or till Col. Chauncey¹ & Col. Whitcomb² return or dispatch an account of their Negotiation

PETER WRAXALL

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.³

Albany Nov^r. 18th. 1755.

SIR

I desire you will send me Word by the Return of this Express as soon as possible what Number of Men you shall think necessary to employ in the Attempt, w^{ch}. you shall forthwith make against the Enemy, in case you determine to make one, what Train of Artillery you propose to carry with you in such⁴ Attempt; Also what Number of Men the State of your Battoes will admit of transporting over the Lake, over & above what is necessary to be employ'd in carrying that Train & Warlike Stores; likewise what Number of Men the State of the Provisions, w^{ch}. you shall

¹ Elihu Chauncey, of Connecticut.

² John Whitcomb, of Massachusetts.

³ Original destroyed by fire.

⁴ Omitted in copy.

be able to get together for making this Attempt will admit of sending.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY ET AL.

Johnson's order of November 18th to Captain Roger Billing to convoy wagons to and from Albany, and his letter of the 18th to General Shirley and Governor Hardy, relating to scouts and bounty for the capture of a Frenchman, following the preceding letter in the Johnson Calendar, p. 67, were destroyed by fire.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹

SIR

Albany. 18th: Nov^r: 1755

This Evening there has been a meeting of myself, Sir Charles Hardy and Commissioners from the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut upon the several points contained in your last Letters; they have agreed, upon Measures, for settling all those points in such a manner, as they apprehend, will be most conducive to his Majesty's Service, and most satisfactory to the Officers and Soldiers under your Command. For this purpose Commissioners from the several Governments concerned will set out from hence for your Camp tomorrow. I give you this Intimation by Express, that you may have it in your power, to quiet the minds of the Army, until those Gentlemen shall arrive: for which purpose you will be pleased to Communicate this to your Officers and Soldiers in such manner as you shall judge proper.

I am Sir

Your most hm^{ble}. Servant

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*¹*Camp at Lake George 18 Nov^r. 1755.²*

SIR

I wrote your Excellency this Morning to w^{ch} I beg leave to refer. Since that Letter went off I called a Council of War & inclose your Excellency a Copy of the Minutes of the same.

Just now I recd your Excellencys of the 15 Inst. with the papers therein inclosed. I am glad a Fort is likely to be built at Oneida. Your Excellency may recollect that I have recommended Forts to be built at the residence of each of the several Nations, I have explained myself thereon to the Lords of Trade, to obtain the Indians consent properly & to effect the Scheme vigorously will I think be quite adviseable. I inclose your Excellency a General return from the last returns given in & beg leave to refer you to Col. Chauncey & Col. Whitcomb for the other particulars w^{ch} they have in charge & am Sir

Your Excellencys Most obed^t hum Serv^t.

TO GENERAL SHIRLEY &c.

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY AND RICHARD GRIDLEY

The preceding was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 67 by a letter of November 18th from Johnson to Governor Hardy, inclosing minutes; a letter of the 18th from J. C. Maine, at Fort Edward, to Colonel Richard Gridley, entreating pardon; and a letter from Johnson to Colonel Richard Gridley, of the 18th, on recent alarm and official misconduct of Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gilbert. All were destroyed by fire.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:410, is printed an announcement from the *London Gazette* that a baronetcy has been granted to William Johnson, dated November 18th.

FROM JOHN FREEMAN

A. L. S.¹*Lake George Novemb^r. 19th. 1755*To the Honourable GENERAL WILL^m: JOHNSON.A Report of the Scout of Cap^m. Robert McGinnis's Comp^{ny}:
under Serj^t. Freeman

Honoured Sr:

The 17th. Instant we Set Down the Lake in a Battoe & that Night Got within about 5 Miles of the French Army & Remain'd there untill the 10th. in the Evening; In which Time we heard 30 peices of Cannon fired of; After which we proceeded on towards the French Army & Spied a French Indian Battoe & Chased her untill She Got ashore under the Command of the French Army, Upon which they were Alarmed & fired two Guns: & then we Retreated as fast as we Could homewards;

Given Under My Hand at the Request of the whole

JOHN FREEMAN

N. B. what they call the French Army in the above Report is the Enemys Advanced Guard.

FROM JAMES MINOT

This report is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 68 by minutes of a council of war, held November 19th, with action relative to the distribution of oxen donated by inhabitants of Suffolk county and acknowledgment of the gift; and by a letter of the 19th to Johnson from James Minot, in behalf of Massachusetts commissioners at Albany, advising that a force be sent to guard wagons. These papers were destroyed by fire.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.¹

Head Quarters

Camp at Lake George Thursday 20 Nov^r. 1755. A. M.

at a Council of War held by General Johnson

Pres^t:

The General	Col. Thacher
Major General Lyman	Cap ^t . Eyre
Col. Plaisted	Leiu ^t . Col. Cummins
Col. Harris	Leiu ^t . Col. Whiting
Col. Cockcroft	Peter Wraxall
Col. Bagly	

The General laid before this Council of War the Information of an Auchquaga Indian transmitted to him by Sir Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York, also Cap^t. Putnams Report who returned yesterday from Tionderogo.

hereupon the General acquainted this Council of War, that as Cap^t. Rodgers when he was last at Tionderogo had observed an Encampment of Indians & Cap^t. Putnam now confirmed the same, he thought, the Enemys Scheme (mentioned in the above Indian Information) of intercepting our Provisions coming from Albany might probably be put to trial & that by a Considerable Body, he judged it therefore Adviseable that a Strong Detachment from this Army should be immediately sent to meet & protect the Waggons & Guard the Provisions w^{ch}. we have Intelligence are upon the Road between Albany & this Place.

hereon he desires the Concurrence & Advice of this Council of War.

It is the Unanimous Opinion of this Council of War that 500 Men be forthwith detached to cover & guard the Provisions & road hither.—

PETER WRAXALL Secr^y.—

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

LETTERS TO AND FROM JOHNSON

This document was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 68, by a mutilated letter of November 21st from Lieutenant Governor Thomas Pownall, at Albany, introducing to Johnson Mr Van Schaik, commissioned to explore the country between Hudson river and Crown Point, with additional remarks on Indian affairs; Stephen Webster and Philip Combes's report of the 21st on the number of boats fit for use; and an undated letter to Major General Lyman, asking his presence at a council of war. They were destroyed by fire.

TO CAPTAIN OF ESCORT

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 22 Nov^r. 1755.

TO CAPTAIN —

You are to march with the Party under your Command to Albany & on your arrival there to wait on the Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay & Connecticut & acquaint them that you are ordered down in order to Guard up hither any Provisions which may be dispatching for the use of this army & w^{ch} you are Accordingly to do provided you meet any Waggon^s or Horses loaded with Provisions or other Stores for the use of this army on the road between this & Albany w^{ch}. may stand in need of a Guard you are to take 'em under your Convoy. You are to march your Men orderly & Silently & prepare against any attempts of the Enemy

W. J.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

This order was followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 68–69 by a letter of November 22d from Johnson to Colonel Richard Gridley about donation of cattle, accounting for ammunition, custody of Maine (under arrest), sentence on prisoners, despatch to General Shirley and garrison of Fort Edward; and a letter of the 22d from Oliver Partridge to a person not named, asking for an escort for commissioners on their way to Fort Edward, joined in the same manuscript with a letter from Samuel N. Nelson to an unnamed person, giving reasons for not sending the escort. These were destroyed by fire.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.¹

Camp at Lake George 21 [22] Nov^r. 1755. A. M.—

Head Quarters

At a Council of War to w^{ch}. all the Feild officers in Camp were Summoned —

Pres^t.

General Johnson

Major General Lyman

All the Feild officers at this Camp except Lieu^t Col. Fay sick abed of a Fever

Cap^t. Eyre chief Engineer &c. Cap^t. Glazier Adjutant General

Peter Wraxall

Secr^{ry}.

The General laid before this Council of War a Copy of the Minutes of a Meeting of the Governors & Provincial Commissioners at Albany and a Letter from William Alexander Esq^r. wherein the same was inclosed, also a Letter from General Shirley.

hereupon the General desired this Council of War to take the Contents of the above Papers into their most serious Consideration & give him their Opinion & advice thereon.

The General Observed to this Council of War, that as the Vote of the aforesaid Meeting is next to an absolute Order for this Army proceeding forthwith against the Enemy, he would recommend that an attempt be made with the utmost Dispatch & Vigour w^{ch}. the Circumstances of this Army will admit of.

The General put the following Question

what further attempt or attempts this Council of War wou'd advise to be forthwith made against the Enemy?

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Voted that it is not adviseable at present to go forward for the following reasons The Council of War desired to be adjourned to 8 oClock tomorrow morning w^{ch} the General consented to.

22 Nov^r. A. M.

The Council of War met according to the adjournment of yesterday.

To avoid Repitition wou'd Referr to those already Given and fully agreed to by a Council of Warr on the 11th. & 12th. of Octo: Last, & another of the 20th: of the same mo: Which We apprehended wou'd have proved Satisfactory & Convinceing to all Concern'd, but it Seems they have not so proved, Neither as yet have they been Removed or Obviated And our further attempt agst. the Enemy at this season is Still Urged by Some Concerned as we sincerely Regard the Interest & Safety of our Country, & the army under our Care, Relative thereto wou'd, as We are in the best Scituation to know both the Circumstances of the Enemy, as Well the State of our army and all the Difficulties that may attend a further progress, more Especially at this advanced Season (and without Presidents) Although Providence has hitherto Bless'd us with uncommon Weather, yet in a Short Time (Unless the Course of Nature is altered and the Season miraculously Changed) We may Expect both Cold & Snow, That if happily We shou'd Succeed agst. Tionderoger, yet a deep Snow Comeing, We Cou'd neither tarry there nor Return back as our Battoes are by no means Sufficient to Transport an army Baggage &c, Equal for Such atte'pt and the Northerly Winds frequent here, Raises Such a Surge as will much Endanger the Transporting our artillery 'ore the Lake, and may Soon be Impassable.

2dly. Neither are our Troops by any means Sufficiently Cloathed for such further attempt, as they are So destitute, that by necessary Camp Duty, they are much Disabled & Dishearten'd, tho as fine a Number of men perhaps as may or can be produced in New England, yet by there being so Exposed as

Well in their Lodging as Cloathing &c & Great part of the army brought to a Very Short allow'ce many days without meat, & When meat but one Biskit & sometimes two, & when no bread only a pint of Flour, Whereby it has been Extreemly Difficult for some Time Past to keep the army or a Greater part of them from Disbanding them Selves, and Nothing but Pressing on them the absolute Necessity of Finishing our Fort so far as to make it in some measure Defenceable, to Secure our Cannon & other Warlike Stores &c and as Stand against the Enemy cou'd Induced them to have Terryed thus long — Labouring under their Burthens together with an Expectation when that was done of returning home to Recruit their Waisted vigour, and before the Road and Weather grew so bad as to Expose them to Travel 2 or 3 Hundred miles thro Snow and Water Week & Strong together, to arrive at their Respective homes which if not done in a few days is more than probable to be the Case, & may Occasion a Greater Loss of men than yet has happened, besides the Danger of Discourgeing any further Expedition

3dly: We have not here above Sixty Battoes which Can be filled for service the Remainder (tho' no ways Sufficient) at Fort Edward which at Present We know not how to get here, the Rhodes are so Excessively bad that the Waggoners when they Arrive here declare they can Scarce Return home without any or but very Small Loads, w^{ch} the aspect of their Horses fully verifie, beside their want of Forrage; & also the Greater part of our Shells, Shot, & Powder necessary for s^d. Undertaking Still at Fort Edward, & the same Difficulties attending their being brought here —

4thly The Whole Provisions now in Camp of Bread and meat only. Void of most all other Necessaries is not more than Sufficient for three days, which is much less than heretofore, Notwithstanding all the Resolute attempts and Frequent Engagements for a large Supply, And tho Considerable is now Expected yet haveing a large Quantity in Garrison Seems Absolutely

Necessary; as thereby it will be easy for the Enemy to Intercept the same afterwards without large Parties for Guards.—

And the Present urging of our proceedings & thereby Causing an unexpected Delay to our Troops in their Return, and no Directions or Provision making for proper Garrisoning the Forts here, Scarcity of Provisions and other Hardships attending our Troops will we fear if not Soon Remedied & the Armes Disbanding; notwithstanding the Utmost united Endeavours of the officers to the Contrary, produce an Entire Rout and Brakeing up of the army in the utmost Confusion, Leaving the Forts artillery & Warlike Stores Entirely to be taken possession of by our Enemy, the Consequence of w^{ch} wou'd be too horrible to Relate, & God forbid it should ever happen —

And to Conclude, We are Contious that this army have to the Utmost of their Abilities fulfilled their Duty to their Country, Exerted them Selves as far as Circumstances wou'd permitt and this Council of Warr are so little averse to a Strict and Impartial Enquirey into the Truth of these Assertions that they most chearfully rest their honour an Cause upon it

PETER WRAXALL

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

This document is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 68 by two letters, of November 22d, from Coldsbrow Banyar, at Albany, both destroyed by fire. The first, written in behalf of Governor Hardy, directs care of boats and asks Johnson to report in person at New York the results of a conference with Indians. The second is occupied with Hardy and Indian affairs.

FROM SIR CHARLES HARDY

D. S.

Albany, Nov. 22, 1755 .

[] Knight Captain General []
in Chief in and over the Pro[] York and the Territories
depending [] in America and Vice Admiral of the same.

You are to give orders to the respective captains in your Regiment to take proper Care that the men in their Companies be duly armed and equipped and furnished with ammunition according to Law, that they may be in readiness to march on short notice.

And on Intelligence of the approach of an Enemy You are to march them to the defence of Fort Edward, or Fort William Henry, or to any Place you shall judge necessary for the defence of the Frontiers and repelling the Enemy.

And Whereas on certain Emergencies it may be Necessary that the Militia of the lower part of this County should be immediately ordered to march and rendezvous here You are therefore to signify your orders to the Lieutenant colonel or the next Commanding officer of the Albany Batalion that upon such Emergency and in your absence from the City of Albany he do forthwith issue his orders to assemble that part of the Militia in this City there to receive your orders or those of the next Commanding officer.

Given under my hand at Albany
The Twenty second day of November
one thousand seven hundred and
Fifty five.

CHAS. HARDY

TO MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM JOHNSON
Colonel, or in his absence to the
next commanding officer of the
Regiment of Militia in the County
of Albany.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY AND SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

Camp at Lake George 22 Novr. 1755

GENTLEMEN

I recieved in a Letter from Mr. Alexander a Copy of the Minutes of a Meeting at His Excellencys Major General Wm Shirleys. w^{ch} I laid before a Council of War, a Copy of the Minutes whereof I herewith transmit to your Excellencies.

There is one point which I think the Council of War have not been so explicit upon as it desired. It is the present Disposition of the Troops here. Most of their Field officers have told me in private Conversation, that they were of Opinion, if the Men were ordered to go forward the greatest part of them would flatly refuse — that the Men & many of their officers in general are so bent upon going home, they have with great difficulty been retained here for some time past. Our out Scouts, our Camp Duty & indeed every kind of Duty, is carried on with Difficulties & delays & performed with reluctancy & murmurings. All things considered it gives me no Surprize & is I think the natural Consequences of the Constitution & peculiar Circumstances of this Army.

I am most respectfully

Gentlemen

Your Excellencies

Most Obed^t.

hum Serv^t.

To their Excellencys

MAJOR GENERAL SHIRLEY

and

SIR CHARLES HARDY.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

FROM MYNDERT WEMPEL

A. L. S.¹*Senecas Land Nov^r. the 22. 1755*Hon^d. GENERAL JOHNSON

SIR

This is to let you know that I am in good health & hope this will find you in the same, & I received a Letter & that give an Account as that you had a sore Battle with the French and Indians & gained the Victory which was very much pleased to me that the Lord had fought for you, & us. for the Women rejoices very much of the News, we received 6 Scalps here they thank'd the General for so doing. The News that is here I will now write as follow.

The french Man Senusses² has been here with 6 Indians & is gone to Cayouga another to spake with them the Drunkard and the Thickey are gone along with them for to hear the News what the French man says. he has spoke with 4 bands of Wampum, the first was that he comes for to pay the Brothers a visit to speak with her that they should not fight with nobody the Second Band says that they all must come in Canada in the Spring for to mourn the death of the Brothers that is kill^d. the third Band says the father says how they come to be lost. the fourth Band says that y^e drunkard is the Occasion of all to bring them to the English of big & small but thou art lost thou Eyes art as yet shut. then the Drunkard & the Thickey spake with one Band to the Frenchman, & says that the French should keep their Mohawk & Ottowawa & all their Nations at home & then we all will stay at home. he made them an Answer that he would write home that the french & English should fight it out by themselves. they said to him your tongue speak well but your heart is false so soon as you are gone it is otherwise. We have here News of Ohio that the Mehehandere have fought against the English they have killed 105 & taken 70 Women

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Chabert Joncaire,

and Children prisoners & here is come one Scalp & here is come one Band of Wampum of 6 foot long of Conastoga and the English are now Settled close by Susqueana. as for the Senecas they order me to write to you that they would come down in the Spring to help you to fight if you do. send no more at present but if it could be so if you could procure somewhat more presents to the Indians for the frenchman had given a great gift to the Indians wherefore I was ashamed of. and here I had of Sinocie four old Sachems for 14 days & I had nothing to give for 10 pound is but a little to give the Commissioners alow'd me always £30 for gifts in time of War. I haved but very hard for John Abeel has now 8 Hog^{sds}. of Rum for I cant work upon that Account 2 for they are every day drunk they force my goods from me & say that the goods I have is not mine it is given to me to give to them as they would have it. no more at present from

Your Hearty Welwisher & Servant

MYNDERT WEMPEL

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

*Df.*¹

[*Camp at Lake George, Nov. 23, 1755*]

SIR

The Troops here are so uneasy under their manifold Sufferings, that I am affraid they may march off in a Body to morrow. The Connecticut seem detirmined at all Events to go off to morrow Morning. I desire you will if the Commissioners from Albany are with you acquaint them with the above particulars & that I think their immediate presence here absolutely necessary for the good of the public Service — If they are not ²

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Omitted in copying.

please to dispatch by an Express of 3 or 4 good Men without delay what intelligence you have concerning them — at all Events I beg to hear from you immediately.

& am
Sir
&c.

TO COL. GRIDLEY.

WILLIAM SHIRLEY AND CHARLES HARDY TO FORT
COMMANDERS

D. S.¹

Albany, Nov. 23^d. 1755

To the Commanding Officer of the Troops employ'd in garrisoning Fort Edward at the Carrying place, & Fort William Henry at Lake George.

You are hereby directed to furnish Mr. Meccellar 4 & Mr. Williamson two Engineers in His Majesty's Service, John Bliker & Anthony Vanscoick & their Company, whom we have sent to make a Survey of the Lands between Fort Edward & South Bay, as also between that Fort & the Falls² at Wood Creek, with such an Escort of Officers & Men out of the Troops under your Command, as they, upon advising with you, shall judge sufficient for their Guard in the aforesaid Service: and you are to supply the said Mr. Maccellar & Company, together with the Party of Officers & Soldiers, who shall be sent to escort them, with Provisions for such a Number of Days as they shall judge the said Service will take up.

W SHIRLEY
CHAS: HARDY

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² The present Whitehall.

DIRECTIONS TO COMMANDANT AT FORT WILLIAM HENRY

D. S.¹*Lake George Camp 25th. Nov: 1755*

Directions to be observed, and followed after, as much as Circumstances Will admit in Fort William Henry in case of an Attack by Artillery,

Upon Notice of the Enemys approach, the Commanding officer is to level every sort of Cover round the Garrison (if not done before) as Soon and as much as possible his time Will allow, and to take every Method to deter if not hinder them from getting possession of the Eminence to the South West of the Fort, by keeping a Constant fire of Artillery upon them Should the approach it from the North East, by the West Side of the Lake, as they must be much exposed from the Fort in drawing their Heavy Guns that way: this Method to be Observed on the Supposition that the Lake is not froze, and that the Enemy Will come by Water within near Gunshot of the Garrison before they Land their Force and Artillery. If they should attempt a Seige when the Lake is lock'd in with Ice, they Will be under the Necessity to mount up the Bank on one Side or the Other, for the Surface of the Water is so much below the Garrison that they will not be able to do any Mischief with Batteries on the Ice, besides their being so much exposed, therefore if they march to the Westward of the Lake the Method before mentioned should be observed.

If the Enemy should think it adviseable to bring their Artillery to the South, & South East Side, by the East Side of the Lake, or on the Lake, they Will still be exposed coming that Way to the Cannon from the Fort, tho' more remote than the Other, and after they have raised Batteries on their Side, as near as the Swamp Will allow them, yet they Will not, it's apprehended be able to make from those Places practicable Breaches prudent to

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

assault what is chiefly to be feared from Cannon at this distance, is their dismounting of some of the artillery if care is not taken, tho' let what will be done, accidents may, and will happen.

But then if the Enemy, as is very likely will endeavour to Cross the Swamp to the South East of the Garison, in order to seize the above Mentioned rising Ground to the South West; in that Case, if this be done within Cannon Shot of the Fort it will prove to them a difficult undertaking, besides their Loss, before they can accomplish it; and if this Passage is made further off, they Will find it not an Easy Matter to ascend the very high & Steep Bank, that is to be met with there. However in the End it may be Supposed all those difficulties are to be Surmounted, at the Expençe of Men, & time, and that they get entrenched on this rising Ground, before which is done, the Cannon should be placed as fast & as quick as is possible; and great care should be taken to Secure all those which can not be made Use of in the most Safe Places which the Commanding officer must be the best Judge of

When the Enemy get themselves safely Secured by means of trenches and Breast Works, and have or, are rising Batteries, the Mortars as well as the Guns should be at Work, to retard and hinder the Progress of their approaches; when the Enemy begins to descend this Hill, then they become much more exposed, and their approach more hazardous and difficult, if the Garison Will take their advantage and are obstinate. I may naturally Suppose by the time all the Barracks may be much damaged if not wholly destroyed, by means of Shells, fire, & Shot, but this must be expected, and the Men off Duty to lie in the Casemates where they can repose themselves without Danger; Pains ought to be used to prevent the firing from spreading as much as possible, otherwise, one do not know but it may be possible an accident may happen to one of the Magazines; the Powder should be divided between them. All that can and will contribute to make a Noble Stand, is, by not being intimidated by accidents, considering Maturely the advantages the Works and their design,

and being resolute, if it must go, to make them dearly Pay for it, both in loss of time as well as in Blood. should the resolute defence not give time to the Country to come to its relief; which must certainly happen, if the Garison Will act on those honourable Terms, and the following the aforesaid Rules, as nearly as Circumstances, and time Will allow.

When the Enemy advances close to the out Side of the Ditch and that by a Superiority of Cannon, and a great loss of their Troops, which last must be inevitable cost them, and that from this Place they Will be able to make a Breach, & not before (except in the Parapet) which will not be Sufficient for them to make an assault; then, and not till then, a brave officer ought to think of Capitulating, when he may reasonably expect an honourable One, for his former gallant behaviour; and it's generally, if not always, that such a difence meets with great respect even from an Enemy; and they will not think it a prudent Scheme to force a brave officer to be desperate, being convinced from his former Conduct he Will make their attempt cost dear. this manner of acting must reflect honour on the Commandant & Garison, and no doubt but it Will bring him a timely relief, or procure him honourable Conditions.

Scouts should be always kept out to give timely Notice, and Sally's during the Siege should be as often attempted as times and Seasons will admit; but they should be made with the utmost precaution and Secrecy, otherwise they may be cut off, so Weeken the Garison, & by that Means Shorten the Siege.

Every Materiel that can Mend Carriages, Ramparts, & Parapets, ought to be brought into the Fort, otherwise the Ramparts & parapets will Soon not be tenable, and the fire of the Cannon too soon be lessen'd: besides Spare Planks for repairing Platforms; a certain Number should be fix'd on for this Service. The honours of War are colours flying, Drums a beating, with one or two Pieces of Cannon & Match lighted & so many Rounds, and Days provisions; and the whole to march thro the Breach; But

this is never allow'd to any, but those who make an obstinate defence.

WILL: EYRE, Eng^r.

In case that the Commandant is acquainted that a Body of Troops are on their March Without Cannon, He may be assured their Intentions are to approach the Garison unobserved, and to Storm the Fort by Escalade, which is often Successful, if the People Within have not good look out, and reflects great honour on the assailants, and the Contrary on the Garison if, they should be Successful, but if this designed Attack be discovered by the defenders it cannot be Successful if the Commandant and his Troops do their Duty, and consequently must be fatal to the Enemy: this is one of the most Bloody attacks made against a Fortress, and fatal when the Issue is not favourable to the assailants. when this is apprehended all the Guns on the Flanks should be loaded With Grape Shot, as they being chiefly useful on Such Occasions. The Footstep all round the Ramparts should be in good repair, that every Part might be full Mann'd. if small Brush-Wood can be found a few fascines and Gabions should be made upon Notice that the Enemy are making preparations for a Siege, they being of the greatest Use to repair the Parapets, I mean the fascines fasten'd with pointed Sticks, and the Gabions, by filling them with Earth, Serve Many Purposes, but particularly in making Blinds or Traverses on any Part of the Works, which are Secur'd by the Besiegers Cannon.

One third Part if not the half of the Troops, should be on Duty at once, and to be relieved Just before Night during the Siege. The Small arms to keep a Constant firing both Night and Day, but particularly in the former, which time the Cannon should cease except the Enemy were making an attempt by Escalade; but the Mortars are to be used at all times; this Method Will render the Enemys progress under the Shelter of Darkness very hazardous, as well as Slow which otherwise they would make

use of to their advantage. A Proper ¹ Party should be posted in the advanced Work in order to keep the Enemy from making a Lodgment close to the Bank and a field Piece may be advantageously Used there, taking care that when there appears apparent Danger of its soon falling into the Enemys Hands to be brought into the Garison. Its impossible to enumerate all the Incidents that happen in a Siege, in order to give Directions thereupon, therefore those must be left to the Discretion and Abilities of the Commanding officer.

FROM RICHARD ROGERS AND DANIEL CLAUS

The preceding paper is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 69 by Richard Rogers and Daniel Claus's report of scouting, dated November 25 (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:281-83; Q, 4:182-83).

TO JONATHAN BAGLY

D. S.²

Camp at Lake George 26 Nov^r. 1755

1

You are to take upon you the Command of the Garrison posted at this Fort & to keep up all that Discipline & good order amongst the Troops which is necessary for the Preservation of his Majestys said Fort & the Tranquility of its Garrison. as soon as possible to level the Encamp^t. near the Fort as it is a Cover to an Enemy

2

You are with all possible Dispatch to have the Works compleated upon the Plan laid down & explained to you by Cap^t William Eyre chief Engineer & to make it as habitable & comfortable for the Troops as Circumstances will allow — to put it in the most defensible Condition & to clear the Woods round it as far as Gun Shot.

¹ Omitted in copying.

² Original destroyed by fire.

3.

In case of an Attack from the Enemy you are to follow the Directions which I give you herewith from the Chief Engineer.

4.

You are to examine into the State of the Military Stores delivered over to you by Mr. Smith Commissary General of the same, to take care there be no Waste or Embezzlement of them, to Examine the powder Magazines & take care to prevent the Powder from receiving any Damage.

5.

You are to order the Battoes to be all hauled over the Bank & put in a place of Security under cover of the Guns of the Fort & so as not to be a Shelter for the Enemy. The Paddles & setting Poles are to be carried into the Fort & both Camp to be carefully searched upon the Marching off of the Troops now here & all the scattered working Tools to be gathered up & Secured in the Fort.—

6.

I would have you keep out constant Scouting Parties round you of about 6 or 7. And if any of our allied Indians should come to the Fort to receive them kindly & Friendly.

7.

You are to make Monthly Returns of the State of your Garrison to General Shirley & Sir Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York & to write to them upon all Matters w^{ch} you may Judge necessary relating to your Command.

8.

At a Meeting of several Field officers & the Provincial Commissioners, I was advised to appoint another Major for one of

the Two Garrisons, I have accordingly appointed Beamsly Glazier Esqr. to be Major of the Troops at this Garrison, and I have also appointed Major Kinsbury to be Superintendent of the Carpenters at this Fort & Mr. Mason to be commanding officer of the Artillery — You will put them in Orders to be Obeyed accordingly.

9.

Agreable to the Opinion of the Council of War held at the Fort, the Provisions are to be one common Stock & to be Issued to the Troops upon an equal allowance —

W. Johnson

By Major Gen^l. Johnson's Command

PETER WRAXALL

Sec^{ry}.

Additional Instruction

(10)

In case you receive credible Intelligence of the Approach of so formidable a Body of the Enemy as may make assistance necessary you are to send me or the Commanding officer of the Militia immediate Notice of it by Express.

Wm. Johnson

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.¹

Nov. 24-26, 1755

Fort William Henry at Lake George Monday Evening 24 Novr.
1755 —

At a Council of War

Pres^t.

Major General Johnson

Major General Lyman

and all the Field officers of the Provincial Troops except
Lieu^t Col. Frey sick of a fever — met this camp.

Cap^t. Eyre chief Engineer &c.

Cap^t. Glazier Adjut. General

The Hon^{ble}. James Minot Esq^r. Commiss^{rs}. from the Pro-

The Hon^{ble}. John Choat Esq^r. vince of Massachusetts

Oliver Partridge Esq^r. Bay.

Colonel Benjamin Hall Commiss^{rs}. from Con-

John Hubbard Esq^r. necticut

Sybt. G. Van Schaick Esq^r. Commiss^{rs}. from the Pro-

Cap^t. Volkert Douw vince of New York

Peter Wraxall Secr^{ry}.

The Major General Johnson laid before this Council of War a Copy of the Minutes of a Meeting held at Albany the 20 Inst of the Governors & Provincial Commissaries and desired this Council of War would take into their consideration & give their Opinion upon those Points therein referred to this Council of War; And that they would also give him their Advice upon such other Matters relating to this Service as are left to him which they may apprehend necessary at this Conjunction.

The Question was put whether 750 Men were suff^t. for Garrisoning Fort W^m. Henry & Fort Edward.

Voted for 750 Men officers included —

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

The Question was put what number of the said 750 Men should Garrison Fort William Henry and what Number for Fort Edward.

Unanimously agreed that 430— be Garrisoned in Fort William Henry & 320 in Fort Edward.

The General proposed to this Council of War whether they would advise him for the present to order the Detachments for the aforesaid Garrisons in the proportions¹ as settled in the aforementioned Minutes of the Meeting at Albany.

Voted in the Affirmative.

Maj^r. General Lyman, Col. Harris, Lieu^t. Col. Cole & Major Champlin excepted against the said proportions as being too heavy for their respective Governments.

The Council of War was adjourned till to morrow Morning at 9 oClock.

Tuesday Morning 25 Nov^r.

The Council of War met according to their adjournment.

The Commissioners from the several Provinces proposed to the General that the Troops agreed to be left in Garrison at Fort William Henry & Fort Edward should be considered as a Reg^t. and that Jonathan Bagly Esq^r. should be Colonel of the same, Nathan Whiting Esq^r. Lieu^t. Colonel Edmond Mathews Esq^r. Major & that New Hampshire Feild officers should have the first Nomination of a Captain & Rhode Island the Second.

Which Proposals the General referred to the Council of War for their Opinion.

The Said Proposals were unanimously approved of by this Council of War.

It is the Unanimous Opinion of this Council of War that the Two Garrisons be supplied out of a Common Stock to be pro-

¹At the meeting in Albany of governors and commissioners it was agreed that a garrison of 600 men for Forts William Henry and Edward should be furnished by the colonies, in the following proportions: Massachusetts Bay, 185; Connecticut, 154; New York, 123; New Hampshire, 77; Rhode Island, 61. Council Minutes, 25:99.

vided by each Gov^t. concerned in proportion to the Number of their Troops retained in said Garrison.

It is the Unanimous Opinion of this Council of War that it be recommended to the respective Governments to provide & Send as soon as possible warm Cloathing & Bedding for the Troops w^{ch}. are to be left in these Garrisons this Winter.

PETER WRAXALL

Secr^y.

Camp at Lake George
at a Meeting at Head Quarters Wensday Morning the 26 Nov^r.
1755.

Pres^t.

General Johnson

Maj^r. Gen^l. Lyman

Col Bagly Col. Dyer & Leiut Col. Whiting and

The Commissioners from the Several Gov^{ts}

Peter Wraxall

Secr^y.

The Numbers of said Meeting gave it as their Unanimous Opinion that the General appoint another Major & his Destination to be for that Fort w^{ch} the General will think most for the good of the Service.

PETER WRAXALL

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹

Albany 26th: Nov^r. 1755 10 oClock forenoon

SIR

Last Night I rec^d. your Packet of the 22^d. Instant directed to me and Sir Charles Hardy who embarked two days ago for New York.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

As his Majesty's Instructions to me upon Indian affairs make it necessary for me to see you soon, I must desire you will come to me at New York, where I shall be until the 7th. of Dec^r. I suppose the Buisness of the Army at Lake George will now admit of your Absence, so as to arrive there by that time, otherwise it will be necessary for me to see you at Boston as soon as may be: The Military Affairs likewise under your Command, require that I should see you before I leave New York, if possible.

Be pleased to let me know the present state of your Barracks at both Forts, and return me your Answer if practicable, by this Express in time for it to reach me in fortyeight hours.

I am

Sir

Your most humble Servant

W SHIRLEY.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

SIR CHARLES HARDY TO SIR THOMAS ROBINSON

*L. S.*¹

Fort George New York Nov^r. 27. 1755 —

SIR

I am now to acquaint you that I returned to this City yesterday, after a long Residence at Albany, where I went with a Committee of His Majestys Council soon after my Arrival to this Government, to give every assistance in my power for the forwarding the Expedition to Crown point.

[Inclosed are Copys of the most material Councils of Warr transmitted to me by General Johnson, during my residence at Albany, by which your Excellency will see the principal causes that prevented that Armys proceeding down the Lake George in their way to Crown point.

¹In Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 17, p. 19, London, England.

Soon after my Arrival at Albany, I found it necessary to Impress all the Waggon and Horses round the Country, for supplying the Army with Provisions; great numbers came in, but not sufficient for laying in the necessary Stores, principally owing to the great number of Reinforcements coming from the Massachusetts, and Connecticut, after the Battle on the 8th. of September, and many from the first mentioned Colony repairing to the Camp without a supply of Provisions, being laid in there for them; those from Connecticut were kept at and about Albany waiting for the arrival of the Stores & Provisions coming round by Sea, that did not arrive in many Days after their Forces; the same circumstances the Massachusetts reinforcements were under, with respect to their Provisions and Stores from Boston; so circumstanced, your Excellency will observe the Impracticability of so large a Body of Men being provided with a sufficient quantity of Provisions, and Stores, by a land Carriage, furnished by this Province only; when at the same time General Shirleys Expedition to Niagara called upon me to assist his Commissarys with Land Carriages also.

I am informed it was expected that the Army when they first moved towards Lake George from Albany, would have carried as much Provisions and Stores as their Battoes could have conveyed, but am told the Waters of Hudsons River were then so low as made that Impracticable, this delay before General Johnson was able to march I apprehend to be one principal cause why the Army did not move to Attempt the carrying the Expedition into Execution after the Arrival of their Reinforcements.

Thus farr I have endeavoured to give your Excellency a full Account of the Difficultys General Johnsons Army laboured under, with respect to Provisions and Stores, necessary for so large a Body of Men.]

The Strength of the Enemy at Crown point, and the Pass at Tionderoga, on the North end of the Lake, your Excellency will find more particularly sett forth in the Inclosed Councils of Warr, Informations, the General obtained by his Scouts and from some few Deserters from the Marine Companys establish'd in Canada.

These Posts being so secured after the Arrival of the Forces under the Baron Deskieu, many of them assembled at Crown point, leads me to beleive, the Army under General Johnson had they been in a condition to have moved forward, (and had had their Battoes at the Lake which they never could get, for want of Carriages to transport them from Fort Edward, where 400 of them lay) would have met with such a Reception, that I doubt whether it would have been prudent for them to have made the attempt, for though it may appear to your Excellency upon the Face of the Council of Warr of the 12th. of October, that the Army at Lake George consisted of 3600 Men, at Fort Edward 500, Reinforcements at and about Albany 2500, in all amounting to 6600. I must observe that the Army at the Camp never amounted to near that number, and the most General Johnson could have had with him, fitt for Service as appeared by the Council of Warr of the 20th. of October would have been 4000, and that at a time the Scouts gave him intelligence that the Enemy were three Thousand, besides a body at an advanced Post consisting of One Thousand mostly Indians.

From these Informations and the opinion of the Officers in their Councils of Warr, I judged it proper to recommend to Gen^l. Johnson to attack the advanced Post of the Enemy, how farr they judged this measure practicable I beg leave to referr you to the Inclosed Council of Warr of the 30^h. of October, from this Council I plainly saw it would be in vain to expect the Army would make any attempt on the Enemy, and as I received information that Commissioners were coming to Albany from the Massachusetts, and Connecticut, to determine the destination of their several Forces for the Winter, in conjunction with the other Governments concerned in the Expedition, I judged it necessary to delay my return here, to meet those Commissioners, for to fix on the proper Garrisons for the securing the Forts at the great Carrying Place, and that on the South end of Lake George, till his Majestys Pleasure should be known concerning them;

this meeting was held on the 20th the result, the Inclosed Copy will fully inform you of, I shall only beg leave to observe to you, that as the Forces of the Massachusetts Bay are under a limited Inlistment, General Shirley assured me, and the Commissioners present, that he would on his return to his Government use his influence with the General Court, that Provisions should be made for their Forces to be left in Garrison, or others sent in their room.

Having thus farr given you the best information in my power with relation to this Expedition to Crown point, I shall only beg leave to observe to you, that though the Army under the Command of General Johnson has not been able to reach Crown Point this year they have advanced the Frontiers of His Majesty's Dominions by building two very respectable Forts, at the Expençe of the Provinces.

As to the several points necessary for me to lay before you, respecting our future Operations, I must beg the suspencion of your Excellencys Judgment till I can collect the proper Authenticated Papers to transmit to you, which I have not time to do by this Conveyance.

What Efforts the Provinces will make to carry this Expedition into Execution next Year, I am not able at this time to inform you of, though I fear the general disappointments of this, may make them rather backward, and more if they find they are not assisted by more able and Experienced Generals, than are at present on this Continent. I must beg your Excellency will not imagine I mean to attack the Conduct of any General Officers who have been concerned this Year, but to offer my humble opinion which my Duty calls on me to do, in matters of this Importance. Military Operations I believe to be very little understood in these Countrys, and they not only want able & Experienced Officers to Conduct them, but to advise them in making the necessary preperations for them.

I must beg leave to lay before you in justice to General Johnson that he has undertaken this Service, as well the care of the Indians, without any reward or pay.

Your Excellencys Letter of the 26th July and one of the 28 August I have received and shall take care punctually to observe their Contents.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most Obedient
and humble Servant

CHAS: HARDY

P. S. The Baron Deskieu is now here, but the Surgeons report, there is but little hopes of their perfecting a cure.

The Papers I inclose to Your Excellency are as follows, viz^t.
Copy of the agreement made at Albany for Dischargeing the
Forces under General Johnson, except 600 for Garrissons for
Forts Edward and William Henry.¹

Minutes of Council of Warr held at the Camp at Lake George
the 11&12 Oct^r. 1755

D ^o	D ^o	20 & 21	D ^o .
D ^o	D ^o	30	D ^o .
D ^o	D ^o	18	Nov ^r .

The Right Hon^{ble}: SIR THOMAS ROBINSON

INDORSED: Fort George New York

Nov^r. 27th. 1755.

Gov^r. Hardy

R 3^d. Jan^{ry}. 1756

¹ See Minutes of Council of War, November 24, 1755, note.

JOHNSON'S PATENT OF HEREDITARY DIGNITY

D.¹William Johnson Esq^r.—Creation of a Baronet

GEORGE the Second by the Grace of God &c TO ALL to whom these presents shall come Greeting Whereas our late Royal Progenitor King James the first made it one of the Principal cares of his Government to Plant and Improve his Kingdom of Ireland and more Especially Ulster a large Province of that Kingdom which by the Conduct and Arms of his said late Majesty being happily reduced to Obedience his said late Majesty laboured to Establish in such a manner that so great a Province might not only flourish with the true Religion Civility and good manners but also with Wealth and Plenty of all things which might Advance the State of a Common Wealth In which Undertaking his said late Majesty's Royal Care did not only Endeavour that the Plantation itself might be carried on Towns raised Houses and Castles built and fields Tilled but also that so New and Extensive an Establishment of Civil Affairs should be Protected and Defended by an armed force least any Hostile force or intestine Defection might Disturb or hinder the Same AND WHEREAS it was intimated to his said late Majesty on the behalf of some of his faithful Subjects that they should be most ready to carry on that Royal Undertaking both with their Lives and fortunes AND WHEREAS his said late Majesty being Moved with the prospect of so good and pious a Work and kindly Esteeming such generous Affections & Inclinations to his Service and the Publick Good resolved within himself to be wanting in Nothing that might Reward the said Intentions of his Subjects Or which might Stir up the Minds and good Wills of others to Do their Endeavours and assist in that behalf Therefore Weighing and Considering with himself that Virtue and Industry are

¹ In Public Record Office, Patent Roll 3649. 29 Geo. II. part 1. N^o. 10, London, England.

best Nourished and Encouraged by Honour and that all Honours and Dignitys derive their Original and Increase from the King as from a fountain to whose Majesty and Royal State it properly belongs to Erect and Institute new Titles of Honour and Dignity as from whom the Ancient Titles flowed He judged it proper to repay new Merits with new Ensigs of Dignity Wherefore of his certain Knowledge and meer Motion after the manner of his Royal Progenitors of famous Memory who had and Exercised this Prerogative of Creating new Degrees of Honour amongst their Subjects He of his Royal Power and Authority ORDAINED Erected Constituted and Created a certain State Degree and Dignity Name and Title of Baronet within his then Kingdom of England to Endure for ever and that the said State Title Dignity and Degree of Baronet should be and be reputed to be a Middle State Title Dignity and Degree of Hereditary Dignity between the Degree of a Baron and the Degree of a Knight NOW KNOW YE THAT WEE of our more Especial Grace certain knowledge and meer Motion have Erected Appointed and Created Our Trusty and Welbeloved Subject William Johnson of Our Colony of New York in America Esquire (a Man Eminent for family Inheritance Estate and Integrity of Manners) who generously and freely Gave and furnished to Us an Ayd and Supply large enough to Maintain and Support Thirty Men in Our foot Companies in Our said Kingdom of Ireland to continue for three whole Years for the Defence of our said Kingdom and Especially for the Security of the Plantation of our said Province of Ulster) to and into the Dignity State and Degree of a Baronet and him the said William Johnson for Us our Heirs and Successors WEE do Erect Appoint Constitute and Create a Baronet by these Presents TO HOLD to him and the Heirs Male of his Body lawfully begotten for ever WEE Will also And do by these Presents of Our Especial Grace certain Knowledge and mere Motion for Us Our Heirs and Successors Grant unto the said William Johnson and to his Heirs Male aforesaid that he the said William Johnson and his said

Heirs Male may have Enjoy hold and take place and precedence by Virtue of the Dignity of a Baronet aforesaid and by force of these Presents as well in all Commissions Writs Letters Patent Writings Appellations Nominations and Directions As in all Sessions Meetings Assemblies and Places whatsoever next and immediately after the Younger Sons of Viscounts and Barons of this Our Kingdom of Great Britain and before all Knights as well of the Bath as Knights Batchelors and also before all Knights Bannerett now Created or hereafter to be created (Except those Knights Bannerett which shall happen to be Created under the Royal Banners Displayed of Us Our Heirs and Successors in Our Royal Army in open Warr And the King himself being personally present and also those Knights Bannerett w^{ch}. shall happen to be Created under the Royal Banners Displayed of Us our Heirs and Successors in Our Royal Army by the first born Son of Us our Heirs or Successors being Prince of Wales for the time being there personally present in open Warr and not Otherwise for the Term of their Lives only and no longer respectively and also Except all Knights of the Most Noble Order of the Garter and all of the Privy Council of Us Our Heirs and Successors the Chancellor and Under Treasurer of Our Exchequer the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster the Chief Justice of the Kings Bench the Master of the Rolls in Chancery the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas the Chief Baron of the Exchequer and all and singular Judges and Justices of either Bench and the Barons of the Exchequer of the Degree of the Coif for the time being (who all and singular by reason of their Honourable Order and Labour sustained in Affairs concerning the State and the Administration of Justice shall have take and hold Place and Precedence in all Places and upon all Accounts before all Baronets now Created or hereafter to be Created any Custom Usage Ordinance or any other matter to the contrary in any wise Notwithstanding) and that the Wives of the said William Johnson and of his Heirs Male aforesaid successively and respectively by Virtue of the said

Dignity of their said Husbands shall have hold Enjoy and take Place and Precedence as well during the Lives of such their Husbands as after the Death of the same Husbands for and during the Natural Lives of such Wives next and immediately after the Wives of the Younger Sons of Viscounts and Barons and the Daughters of Viscounts and Barons and before the Wives of all Persons before whom the Husbands of such Wives by force of these Presents ought to have Place and Precedence And in regard that the Degree of a Baronet is a Degree of Hereditary Dignity the firstborn Son or Heir Male Apparent and all the rest of the Sons and their Wives and the Daughters of the same William Johnson and of his said Heirs Male respectively shall have and hold Place and Precedence before the firstborn Sons and Other Sons and their Wives and the Daughters of all Knights of whatsoever Degree or Order respectively and also before the first born Sons and other Sons and their Wives and the Daughters of all persons respectively before whom the ffathers of such first born Sons and Sons and Daughters by force of these presents ought to have Place and Precedence So that such first born Sons or Heirs Male Apparent and their Wives as well during the Lives as after the Deaths of their said Husbands for and during their Natural Lives and such Sons (those Sons following immediately and next after the Wives of the first born Sons of such Baronets) shall have and take Place and Precedence before the first born Sons and the Wives of the first born Sons of every Knight of what Degree or Order soever and that the Younger Sons of the said William Johnson and of his said Heirs Male and their Wives successively and respectively as well during the Lives as after the Deaths of their said Husbands for and during their Natural Lives shall in like manner have & take Place and Precedence next & immediately after the first born Sons and the Wives of the first born Sons and before the Younger Sons and the Wives of the Younger Sons of all Knights aforesaid WEE Will also and do by these presents for Us our Heirs and Successors Grant that the said

William Johnson shall be Named Appealed Called Plead and be impleaded by the Name of William Johnson Baronet And that the Style and Addition of Baronet shall be put in the End of the Name of the same William Johnson and of his said Heirs Male in all our Letters patent Commissions and Writs and all other Charters Deeds and Letters by Virtue of these presents as a true lawfull and necessary Addition of Dignity WEE Will also and do by these Presents for Us our Heirs and Successors Ordain that before the Name of the said William Johnson and of his Heirs Male aforesaid successively in English Speech and in all English Writings shall be Used and Sett this Addition to wit, SIR and that in like manner the Wives of the same William Johnson and of his said Heirs Male shall Use have and Enjoy this Appellation LADY, MADAM and DAME respectively according to the manner of speaking AND MOREOVER of our more abundant Grace certain Knowledge and meer Motion Wee have Granted and do by these presents for us our Heirs and Successors grant unto the said William Johnson and to his said Heirs Male that they and their Descendants shall and may bear either in a Canton in their Coat of Arms or in an Escutchion at their pleasure the Arms of Ulster (to wit) an Hand Gules or a Bloody Hand in a field Argent and that the said William Johnson and his said Heirs Male successively and respectively shall and may have place in the Armies of Us Our Heirs and Successors in the Troop nigh to the Banner of Us our Heirs and Successors in Defence of the Same which is the Middle Station between a Baron and a Knight AND FURTHER WEE do hereby grant that the said William Johnson and his said Heirs Male shall have two Assistants of the Body to Support the pall one principal Mourner and four Assistants to the same principal Mourner in their ffunerals Wee Will Moreover and do by these presents of our more ample Grace certain Knowledge and meer Motion for Us our Heirs & Successors covenant and Grant to and with the said William Johnson and his said Héirs Male that Wee will immediately after the passing of these presents create and Make the said

William Johnson a Knight and that Wee our Heirs and Successors will create and make the first born Son or Heir Male Apparent begotten of the Body of the said William Johnson and of the Bodies of his Heirs Male aforesaid and Every one of them a Knight as soon as he shall attain the age of one and Twenty years although in the Lifetime of his ffather or Grandfather Upon Notice given thereof to the Chamberlain or Vice Chamberlain of the Household of Us our Heirs or Successors for the time being or in their Absence to any other Officer or Minister of us our Heirs or Successors attending the person of us our Heirs or Successors TO HAVE hold Use and Enjoy the same State Degree Dignity Style Title Place and Precedence with all and singular the priviledges and other the preñes before granted to the said William Johnson and his Heirs Male of his Body lawfully begotten forever WILLING and by these pesents for us our Heirs and Successors granting that he the said William Johnson and his said Heirs Male and every of them successively shall and may bear and have the said Name State Degree Style Dignity Title Place and Precedence with all and Singular the priviledges and other the premisses and that the same William Johnson and his said Heirs Male and every of them shall successively be held Baronets in all things and shall be treated and reputed as Baronets AND FURTHER of Our more Especial Grace certain Knowledge and meer Motion WEE have granted and do by these presents for us our Heirs and Successors Grant to the said William Johnson and his said Heirs Male that they and their said Heirs Male respectively and other Baronets made and hereafter to be made from time to time shall for ever have hold and Enjoy their Place and Precedence among themselves Each of them according to the Priority and Seniority of his Creation of a Baronet aforesaid and not otherwise nor in other manner AND MOREOVER of our more Abundant Grace and of our certain Knowledge and meer Motion WEE have granted and do by these presents for us our Heirs and Successors Grant to the said William Johnson and his said Heirs Male that neither WEE nor our

Heirs or Successors will hereafter Erect Ordain Constitute or Create within this Our Kingdom of Great Britain any other Degree Order Name Title Style Dignity or State nor give or grant place precedence or preheminance to any person under or below the Degree Dignity or State of a Baron of Parliament of this our Kingdom of Great Britain who shall be or may be or accounted used or reputed to be superior or equal to the Degree Dignity or place of a Baronet aforesaid nor shall any person under the Degree of a Baron (Except before Excepted) by reason or colour of any constitution order Dignity Degree Office Service Place Business Custom Use or other thing whatsoever now or hereafter have hold or Enjoy Place Precedence or Preheminance before a Baronet aforesaid but that as well the said William Johnson and his said Heirs Male as the Wives Sons Daughters and the Wives of the Sons of the same William Johnson and of his said Heirs Male respectively from henceforth forever shall freely and quietly have hold and Enjoy their said Dignity Place Precedence and Priviledge before all Persons (Except before Excepted) who shall hereafter be created of such Degree State Dignity Order Name Style or Title or to whom the Title Place Precedence or Preheminance as aforesaid shall be given or granted or who shall claim to have hold or Enjoy any Place or Precedence by reason or colour of any Constitution Order Dignity Degree Office Service Place Business Custom Use or other thing whatsoever and before their Wives and children respectively according to the true intent of these presents without the hindrance of us our Heirs or Successors or any other person or persons whatsoever SAVING nevertheless and always reserving to us our Heirs and Successors full and absolute power and authority to continue and Restore to any person or persons from time to time such Place and Precedence as at any time hereafter shall be due to them which by any Accident or occasion whatsoever shall hereafter be changed anything in these Pents or any other cause or respect whatsoever to the contrary thereof Notwithstanding WEE Will Moreover and do by these

presents for us our Heirs and Successors Grant and Appoint that if any Doubts or Questions as to any Place Precedence Priviledge or other thing touching or concerning the said William Johnson and his said Heirs Male and their Wives the first born Sons and their Wives the younger Sons Daughters and Wives of the younger Sons or any of them shall hereafter arise which neither by those our Letters Patent nor by other Letters Patent heretofore made in this behalf are Determined such Doubts or Questions shall be Determined and adjudged by and according to such other Rules Customs and Laws (as to Place Precedence or other things concerning them) as other Degrees of Hereditary Dignity are Ordered Governed and Adjudged LASTLY WE WILL and do by these presents for us our Heirs and Successors grant to the said William Johnson and his said Heirs Male that these our Letters Patent or the Inrollment thereof shall be in and by all things good firm valid sufficient and Effectual in the Law as well against us our Heirs and Successors as Against all other persons w^t. soever according to the true intent of the Same as well in all our Courts as elsewhere WEE will also &c without ffine in our Hanaper &c IN WITNESS &c WITNESS Oursel at Westminster the Twenty seventh day of November

By Writ of Privy Seal

FROM RICHARD SHUCKBURGH¹

*New York, Nov. y^e 27. 1755.*²

DEAR S^R.

The best news that I have heard lately is that its probable I may have the pleasure of seeing you soon here: I fear your mind is troubled with the division we hear the General has been pleased to make in the Conduct of Indⁿ. affairs, as it was universally

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1020-21, is a letter, of November 27th, from Sir Charles Hardy to the lords of trade, in which the Crown Point expedition is discussed.

understood to be a peculiar appointment in y^r. department of the Expedition agst. the unwarrantable incursions of the French: I cant help saying it is hard that the only Person, who has successfully done any thing to make us respectable in our Colonies, should be laid athwart or discomposed in his direction of affairs so essential to the common Good, while having so serious a Charge as that of an army & without vanity may be sensible of the great Expectations the Ministry must entertain from his Conduct, whom they have so pointedly allotted to Act. Excuse my freedom when I say it would be highly necessary that you write yourself to the Ministry, L^d. Hallifax particularly, the present State of affairs what has been transacted & what you may humbly think requisite to proceed farther agst. the French, who are much embarrass'd in their Politicks, on our being so superior at Sea; our Men of War taking all their Trade, few Vessels escap'd. They wou'd willing confine the War to this Continent where they know from their previous interest & combination with the Ind^s. they are now certain of Success, especially as we are so disjointed in our Management what will be undertaken next year I know not, but it seems we may rather act upon the Defensive than Offensive, as indeed we have done no more thus & well that we did it; the Glory belongs to you, I am joined in that Opinion by the acclamations of all equitable Persons who take a singular pleasure in allowing the merits of an action where it is due, being ever provided agst. the prejudice partiality & odious comparisons of the ignorant & evil minded.— whatever you may read in the News papers I now send up: I must acquaint you that M^r. Fox late Secretary at War is made Secretary of State for the Southern Provinces, which includes this part of the Kings dominions L^d. Barrington is made Secretary of War, Sr. Tho^s. Robinson late Secretary of y^e Interior¹ y^e Ward Robe the Spaniards are much Sollicated by the french to take part in the War against Us, but they are inflexible in their peace-

¹ Omitted in copying.

full intentions towards Us. Cap^t. John Shirley¹ died here Sunday from a disorder contracted at Oswego an incorrigible looseness besides I beleive consumptive: he had all Military Honours shown at his funeral: I pity the Gen^l. his father it being the second Son he has lost during this Expedition. the Baron De Dieskau y^r. Prisoner, its yet doubtful whether he will recover Dr. Magra does not continue to visit him. I wish it may be in my power to Keep him alive, I am glad you catch'd him he of himself is a good prize, we take him to be a most consummate Gen^l. it is said he was Executor & Legatee to Marshale Saxe & a great favourite of his, he is a man of some Estate besides his command of two Regiments in the King of Frances service. his Aid de Camp Bernier has the Misfortune Not to be lik'd by any; having a strange kind of Negative in his Countenance something forbidding familiarity, which is not the general Characteristick of ye french it seems he is a Savoyard, vastly inquisitive, narrow in his Sentiments troublesome & impertinent, gave some offence to Dr. Magra on w^{ch} he discontinued his visits; I do not understand french so part of this is not my own remark, that only relates to his looks & Deportment. I have seen Col. Cole's Letter which is wrote wth Caution Modesty & sense I'm sorry your Colleague Provincial drew upon himself such severe Remarks on his behaviour & seemingly no less true. tis a saying of some Author I have met with that Envy may be compar'd to a deceit of the Eye when we imagine we go backwards because others go forwards some who it was impossible cou'd participate in the Glory of this single action seem to Extenuate it tho great as it was in the Execution & much greater in Consequence & doubtless will reflect due honour & Confidence from the Ministry in England on you the principal in this first fortunate Enterprize agst. y^e Common Enemy in this part of the world. I shall refer the most of my Sentiments

¹ John Shirley was the second son General Shirley lost during the campaign just closed, the other son, William, having been secretary on Braddock's staff and shot dead by his chief's side.

on this & other matters relative till I may have the honour of a tete a tete conference being by the firmest attachment y^r. friend & most oblig'd & most humble Serv^t.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF OFFICERS

*D. S.*¹

Fort Edward Fryday Morning the 28 Nov^r. 1755-

At a Meeting of the several Commanding officers of the Provincial Troops now at this Fort summoned by Major General Johnson

Pres^t.

Maj ^r . General Johnson	Lieut Col. Gilbert
Colonel Gridley	Doctor Williams commanding the
Colonel Plaisted	detachm ^t . of Col. Pomroys Reg ^t .
Colonel Harris	Lieut Colonel Irving
Colonel Cockcroft	Mr. Macceller
Colonel Whiting	

Peter Wraxall

Sec^{ry}.

Mr. Macceller One of His Majestys Engineers produced an Order signed by General Shirley & Sir Charles Hardy directed to the Commanding Officer of the Troops employed in Garrisoning this Fort & Fort William Henry for an escort for the said Mr. Macceller & Company for the Services mentioned in said Order w^{ch} was read to the Members of this Meeting. And Mr. Macceller being asked what Guard he thought necessary to escort him, told the General 250 — Men — whereupon the General desired the Opinion of the Gentlemen present whether they thought it safe & adviseable to detach that number out of the said Garrisons & what Number of Men they thought would be a safe & suff^t. Escort for this Service.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

It is the Unanimous Opinion of the Provincial Officers present that it is neither safe nor adviseable to detach out of the said Garrisons, considering their Strength, their Circumstances & the present Disposition of the Troops, the said Number of 250 Men & that a less number would not be a prudent or adviseable Escourt

The General put the Question whether the Commanding Officers at present could detach out of their Troops now here under their respective Commands the said number of 250 as an Escourt for Mr. Macceller & Co.

It is the Unanimous Opinion of the said Officers that they have neither the Power to order nor Influence suff^t. to prevail on their Men to march upon the said Escourt.

PETER WRAXALL

Sec^{ry}.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df. S.*¹

Fort Edward Fryday Morning 28 Nov^r. 1755.

SIR

Your Excellencies Letter of the 26. Inst met me yesterday Evening on my March hither from Fort William Henry.

I hope to see Your Excellency at New York. There are two Ranges of Barracks at Fort William Henry two Story high, all which want flooring except the upper Story of the North Barrack, the rest would have been finished but for the want of Boards, there is no Glass for the Windows. when compleated they will contain about 250 Men, they are to build tempory hutts out of the remains of our Camp for the remainder of the Garrison, & I expect they will find some Boards in our Encampments for flooring & enough for the partitions. I wrote to Commissary Emerson for Locks for the Gates Magazines & Stores some time ago but none are yet sent.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

The Barracks for this Fort are not finished but when compleated will contain & that commodiously the Garrison for this Fort, were all the Materials at hand & the Men to work briskly they might be compleated in about a Fortnights time.

I am

Sir

yr Excellencys &c.

W. J.

To MAJOR GENERAL SHIRLEY &c. &c.

TO NATHAN WHITING

D. S.¹

[*Fort Edward, 28 November, 1755*]

Instructions for Lieu^t. Colonel Nathan Whiting Commandant of His Majestys Fort Edward.

(1)

You are to take upon you the Command of the garrison posted at this Fort & to keep up all that Discipline & good order amongst the Troops posted here which is necessary for the preservation of said Fort & the Tranquility of its garrison.

(2)

You are with all possible Dispatch to have the Barracks & Works compleated upon the Plan laid down & explained to you by Cap^t William Eyre Chief Engineer & to make it as habitable & as comfortable for the Troops as Circumstances will allow to put the Fort in the most Defensible condition w^{ch}. is practicable & that as speedy as possible.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

(3)

In case of an attack from the Enemy you are to follow the Directions from the Chief Engineer which I shall transmit you from Albany.

(4)

You are to examine into the State of the Military Stores delivered over to you by Mr. Smith Commissary General of the same, to take care there be no waste or Embezzlement of them to examine the powder Magazine & take every proper Method to prevent the powder from receiving any Damage.

(5)

You are to order the Battoes to be taken good care of, that they are not abused or damaged by any neglect & the Paddles & setting Poles to be all gathered up & carried into the Fort.

(6)

I would have you keep out constant Scouting Parties round about of about 6 or 7. And if any of our Allied Indians should come to the Fort to receive them kindly & friendly.

(7)

You are to make Monthly Returns of the State of your Garrison, of your Provision &c. to General Shirley & Sir Charles Hardy Gov^r. of New York & to write to them upon all Matters w^{ch} you may judge necessary relating to your Command.

(8)

Agreable to the Opinion of the Council of War held at Fort William Henry, the Provisions are to be one common Stock & to be issued to the Troops upon an equal allowance.

(9)

In case you receive Credible Intelligence of the Approach of so formidable a Body of the Enemy as may make assistance necessary, you are to send me or the Commanding officer of the Militia of the County of Albany immediate Notice of it by Express.

Given under my hand at Fort Edward this 28 day of November 1755.

W JOHNSON.

By Major Gen^l Johnson
Command

CAPT. WRAXALL
Sec^{ry}.

FROM NATHAN WHITING

D. S.²

Fort Edward Nov^r 29 1755

A list of the Companys with their Numbers now in Garrison
att Fort Edward Viz

My own Comp.	42	Inclusive of officers
Cap ^t . Grants Comp	45	"
Cap ^t . Hobbeyes Comp	46	"
Cap ^t . Putnams Comp	46	"
—179		
Maj ^r . Mathews Comp	57	
Cap ^t . Gaylords Comp	36	

272 Total with Officers

N B Two of the above Companys Viz. Cap^{ts}. Hobbey and Putnam are not yet arrived from Lake George; Connecticut must Still furnish 14 men New York 61 in Order to Compleat their Numbers &c Maj^r Mathews tells me he has 14 Men gone to Albany with Leave that he expect in a few Days

¹Original destroyed by fire.

*A. L. S.**Fort Edward Nov^r 29th 1755*

SIR

I order'd muster of all the Troops in this Garrison This afternoon immediately upon Col Gridleys going of & found the Numbers to be but 272 which Supposing the two Companys yet at Fort Edward to hold out as they are now Set Down, falls Short of the Complement for the Garison here 75, I doubt not you will make a Speedy representation of the affair that Some relief may be FORTHWITH afforded, I dont find I have above ten or twelve Carpenters & but two Sawyers & them borrowed of Col Bagley. They I immagine are gone to the other fort with their Comrades: What a bad Situation the fort is in, & what want of every thing you perfectly know. Col Bagley has a memorandum of Sundry Articles wanted which if not Speedily sent Especially the Wagons to ride Stone & Nails to Shingle the Barracks, we shall Soon be in a very bad Situation, I make no doubt you will do every thing in your power to forward every thing Necessary for the Works I have ingaged 36 of the Connecticut Companys in the New York pay to inlist on Condition of being relieved by the 14th. January & having Samuel Gaylor their Capt Ebenezer Dyer & William Billings Lieut^s which I was obliged to promise them & beg you would forward the Commissions I have informed the Commissioners of the terms of their Staying & of their deficiencys in their troops & desired them to take Speedy measures to Supply them — M^r Dyer is my friend & a Worthy Active Man I desire the favour you would give him a Commission for fort Maj^r as such an officer is very Necessary & may be a great ease to me, & an Obligation to a Worthy Man — I want assistance by Some active Man as I really am Like to have much on my hands.

I gave orders to make up the Complement in Maj^r Fitchs three Companys 54 by detaching, it was done & the Names returned to me but not one of them Stayed I wish I may be relieved or at Leest have Liberty to go Home for a Season, for I have a

troublesome time & really want Some relaxtiation from my fatigue.

NATHAN WHITING

MAJ^R GENERAL JOHNSON

FROM SIR CHARLES HARDY

L. S.¹

Fort George New York 30 Novem^r. 1755.

SIR

The inclosed Letter from Col. DeKay² I received yesterday in the Evening by Express. By the Papers sent with it, there is an Account that the Enemy have cutt off a Settlement called lower Smithfield, and at another Place have murdered 7 Persons. In Pensilvania they have done much Mischief, and lately destroyed one of the Moravian Settlements called Mahony near Delaware River and kill'd all the Inhabitants but two. They are now infesting the Jerseys, and Minisink in this Province, and tis supposed as their Rout has been from Potowmack to Delaware along the Back of the Mountains they will pass through the back parts of our Settlements till stop'd perhaps by the Fear of approaching too near the six Nations. From the best Accounts we yet have, there is great Reason to believe a number of the Delawares Shawanys and Susquehanahs are concerned in these Incursions, and if not acting therein, it must be with their Consent, since it is through their Country the Enemy's Indians pass to perpetrate these Cruelties.

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

² Letter not found. Thomas DeKay was colonel of an Orange county regiment.

I think it therefore necessary that a Message be sent by you, in my Name, to the different Nations, to acquaint them with these Incursions, and even to warn them to be on their Guard least there be any Design against them. At the same time to insist that they dispatch Messengers to the Delawares, Shawanys and the other Nations dependent on the six Nations requiring them not to assist the French but to take up the Hatchet and assist the English and to let them know that if they go out a fighting against the English, the six Nations will consider them as Enemies, and treat them as such accordingly.

This is look'd on as a very proper measure to be taken without Loss of time, and I not only recommend it to you as my own Opinion, but as the unanimous advice of his Majesty's Council; and if the Fund for Indian Affairs is wholly expended, and General Shirley is embarked from Albany, or should refuse to supply you with Money, I engage to reimburse you the Expence this service may be attended with.

The Accounts I have, give soom room to suspect the River Indians may join the Enemy it is proper therefore the six Nations should send a Message to those living in the back parts of Orange and Ulster counties ordering them to assist us in repelling the Enemy.

I am Sir.

Your most Obed^t.

and humble Serv^t.

CHAS: HARDY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

TO COLONIAL GOVERNORS

*Df.*¹*Albany 2^d. December 1755.*

GENTLEMEN

Conformable to the agreement of the Governors and Provincial Commissioners at their Meeting in this City the 20 Ult^o. and in Consequence of the Votes of a Council of War, of w^{ch} the Commissioners from the several Governments were Members, held at Fort William Henry the 24 & 25 Inst a Copy of the Minutes of which Council of War I herewith transmit you — I have discharged the Provincial Troops under my Command, except the Number agreed to be given by the several Provinces for Garrisoning Fort William Henry & Fort Edward. To the Commanding officers of these Garrisons I have given the best Instructions in my power Copies of which I herewith transmit you. Vide (3).

Thus Gentlemen is this Campaign closed. I think myself obliged to observe to you — that altho the Sanguine Hopes & over-eager Expectations of the Governments concerned, are disappointed, and which I am informed have been in a great measure nursed & strengthened by some of our own Corps from (as I apprehend political & selfish Motives)—in spite of the Envy or Malice of others. I say in opposition to These or any other Causes of public Discontent, I think my self obliged to observe to You Gentlemen, that our Army hath had the honour by the singular favour of Divine Providence, of defeating some part of that formidable & ambitious Plan which was concerted at the Court of France & put into the hands of the Baron Dieskau to execute. a Plan Gentlemen, which had not this army been the chosen Instrument of putting into Confusion, would very prob-

¹ Original destroyed by fire. There is a copy in Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 46; transmitted in Johnson to Sir Thomas Robinson, January 17, 1756. In copy the order of two paragraphs is different from that in the draft.

ably, not only have destroyed all our other Military Operations, have totally lost us all our remaining Indian Allies, but have plunged these Northern Colonies into the most calamitous situation & opened Streams of Blood from every vein. Far be it from me either in behalf of this Army to impute the Glory hereof nearly to their prowess, or to insinuate ¹ my own Consequence — I did, I do & I hope I always shall, gratefully adore the very remarkable Interposition of the Supreme Ruler of the Universe.

Gentlemen

From the date of this Providential Repulse by the Authority of indisputable Facts & authentic Records, the Circumstances & situation of the Troops under my Command I take upon me to assert, that it hath not been prudently practicable or adviseable for the army to proceed further towards the Enemy.

without entering into the particular ungrateful reasons which have induced me to explain myself as above, give me leave to assure You they are such as in my Opinion justifie me for doing it.

I think my self also obliged to give this public Testimony to the Merits of the following Gentlemen

Cap^t Peter Wraxall during my Command has without even the Prospect of any Pay, without taking any Fee or Perquisite whatsoever, acted as my only Aid de Camp & Secretary and also as Judge Advocate to the Troops under my Command — I think he has distinguished himself in these Departments, with that Fidelity Capacity and unremitted application as deserves the Esteem of the public, full well I am convinced it deserves my grateful Acknowledgment.

Cap^t William Eyre was sent to me by General Braddock to act in the Expedition under my Command as an Engineer. he hath sustained the Duties of chief Engineer, Quarter Master General & Director of the Train of Artillery, for neither of w^{ch}

¹ Transcript in Public Record Office has "impute it to my own Consequence," and the paragraph ends with these words.

Posts any Establishment was or hath been provided; he has never applied for any and as often declared he expects none. His Skill & unwearied application in planning directing & attending the building Fort Edward & Fort William Henry, have been evident to the whole Army. In his other Departments he has been extreamly useful to this Army, & as a Gentleman early initiated into Military Life, has on many important Occasions shown his beneficial Consequence to our Service.

Mr. Beamsly Glazier arrived in our Camp 2 or 3 days before the Engagement, he distinguished himself that day every way worthy of a good officer. After this he accepted of an Appointment from me, of Adjutant General, tho no Establishment was made for such an officer, than w^{ch} none was more wanted or necessary in our Camp. he has sustained this Post with indefatigable Diligence & very advantageously for the Service. I persuade myself the Justice & honour of the Governments concerned will make a provision for this Gentleman adequate to his fatiguing Services.

Gentlemen

As I am about to close the Military Scene I have acted in, I thought I could not quit it with becoming propriety, had I remained Silent with regard to these Gentlemen whose Names I have particularly mentioned.

I beg Gentlemen you will do me the favour to communicate to your respective Governments my grateful Acknowledgments for the honour done me in consenting to my Appointment as Commander in chief of their Troops, and I hope you & they will believe my most solemn assurances, that I have to the utmost extent of my Abilities faithfully & Diligently discharged the Trust reposed in me,¹ and that if I have fallen short of their Expectations & Opinions, it hath been my Misfortune not my Crime, and herein I am very willing to stand the strictest & most impartial Enquiry. I look upon my Command as now at an End & my Authority no longer to exist. If I am herein mistaken, I must

¹ The words which follow, to and including "Enquiry," are omitted from the copy in the Public Record Office.

beg to surrender my Commission as Major General & Commander in chief of the Provincial Forces on the Expedition against Crown Point, and to declare my disinclination to act any longer in that Capacity.

I am

Most respectfully

Gentlemen

Your most Obed^t & most hum serv^t.

But Gentlemen I must inform you that the officers in general have been prevailed on to stay from a regard to the honour of the Service & the Welfare of their Country. that it was with the utmost reluctancy the Men could be retained in the Garrisons & that most of their Enlistments expire in a few¹ Weeks, their numbers not compleat. that the Commanding officers of the Artillery, Gunners & Matrosses are people who I fear are by no means equal to that Service and in Short unless these Garrisons are put upon a better & more Secure Establishment than it was in my power to fix them, I am affraid of the Consequences. I hope therefore that without delay these important affairs will be duly considered & put on a footing of more Order & Security. I have directed the Commanding Officers of each Garrison to make returns of the State of them to General Shirley & S^r. Charles Hardy as soon as possible —

Gentlemen

herewith I also transmit you the Engineers Roll of the Officers & Men belonging to the Artillery with the amount of the Pay respectively due to them. The Good of the Service made it absolutely necessary to appoint this Artillery Company & as an Establishment was voted for this purpose by the General Court of Massachusetts Bay, I make no Doubt the Persons concerned will be duly paid. The officers in particular & the Men in general

¹ "four Weeks" in copy in Public Record Office.

distinguished themselves in a very meritorious Manner in our Engagement at the Camp

To The Governors of the Several Governments who raised Troops on the Expedition against Crown Point.

FROM JOHN POWNALL

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1022, is printed a letter, of December 2d, from John Pownall to Johnson, informing him that the attention of the King has been called by the lords of trade to Shirley's interference with the Indian department.

DIRECTIONS TO COMMANDANT AT FORT EDWARD

*Df. S.*¹

Albany 2^d. Decembr. 1755

Directions to be observed by the Commanding officers at Fort Edward in case of an attack.

Three of the Six pounders should be mounted as Soon as possible in the North East Bastion two in the North west, & one in the South East. the South west Corner of the Fort to be laid out as the chief Engineer has marked it and put into a Posture of defence, as Soon as time will allow, and palisaded as the rest of the Works.

If an Enemy should attempt this Place, its reasonable to believe they Will do it in those two Sides that are not defended by Water, consequently the greater care must be taken to have as many Ambrasures made in those Bastions and Platforms, which may enable the Garrison to fire upon the Enemy let them approach it which Way they Will, great care should be taken to oblige the Enemy to begin their approach as far off as is possible, by keeping a Constant fire on them With as Many of the Guns as can be brought to bear and particularly before they can

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

have time to cover themselves. After they have erected their Battery or Batteries against the Garison they Will endeavour to destroy and knock down the Top of the Parapet & Palisades in order to make a Passage which they may assault, & this Step must be wholly left to the Commanding Officer, as he Will be the best Judge of his own Strength, & that of the Enemy; but if he finds himself able to oppose the beseigers, he ought to make a Retrenchment behind the Place where he expects the attack in case he should be obliged to give Way, in order to save the Garison from being Sacked or put to the Sword. this Retrenchment is only a Breast Work raised, to retire behind if the Breach or Passage can not be defended. But If the Enemy should endeavour to make themselves Masters of y^e Fort by Escalade, it must be by Surprize, otherwise it's a very hazardous attempt, therefore the Commandant ought to be on his Guard to prevent such an attack, but if they should undertake it by mere force, the Artillery should be all loaded with Grape Shot, on the Flanks, and every Part of the Works Manned as Well as the Number Will admit except a proportional Number on the Parade to be always ready to Sustain that Part which may be pressed most.

Small Parties of two or three should be constantly kept out to give timely Notice of an Enemy's approach.

If the Commanding officer finds, after he has done his utmost to defend the Garison as long as he can, his next endeavour is to obtain honorable Conditions. the honours of War are that y^e Garison March out With Drums beating Colours flying, two or three Days or more of Provisions, as also one or two Cannon, & Match lighted.

during the time that the River is lock'd up by Ice, great caution should be used to prevent an Escalade, as an Enemy may then approach it on all Sides with ease.

WILL: EYRE
Engineer.

FROM COLDEN & KELLY

A. L. S.¹*New York Decem^r. 3^d. 1755*

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON,

SIR

We've receiv'd your much esteem'd Fav^r. of the 18th Ult^o. agreeable to which have sent you the respective articles you ordered except the Box of Lemmons which could not be procured pr Bill of Parcells & receipts enclosed & as to your being disappointed in our keeping up a Correspondence with you during the last Campaigne do assure you it was not either want of Inclination or Time to do any thing that We thought might be agreeable to you but that of imagining you were so burthen'd with Business of Importance that writing to you unless on the most pressing Occasion would have been Troublesome & Impertinent.

We've enclosed such of your foreign Letters as are come to our Hands

Our W——K, and his Countrymen here desire their Complim^{ts}. may be acceptable to you & they are in great Hopes to be honour'd with your Company here 'ere the Winter proves an Impedim^t. to a thing they so much wish for, to testifie which They intend on your arival to have 6 of their Capital Merch^t. Men haled out in Batalia in the Stream to proclaim it in so audable a Manner as the Sound thereof shall be both grating & Irksome to the few here whose private piques or late Contracted dirty party Prejudices would wish you a different reception & lest your Modesty should induce you to shun a complim^t. of this kind they beg the favour y^r. permission & of your acquainting them when you are within a few Miles of this City to the End their attempt may be conducted with such Decency & regularity as may make it ornamental both to themselves & Country — To desire you to

¹Original destroyed by fire.

accept the Compliments of Messrs. Wallace, Folliott Cunningham & Torrens would be a particularization that would do Injustice to the rest of your Countrymen & Freinds here, other than as representatives, in which Light please to receive from Us their most sanguine Tenders of Esteem & respect in Conjunction with

Sir

Your most Obed^t. & most humble Serv^{ts}.

COLDEN & KELLY

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

Contemporary Copy

3 Decembr. 1755

<Extract of a Letter from Gov^r. Morris to General Shirley Dated at Philadelphia December the 3^d: 1755>

<The Unhappy> defeat of the General gave the French Infinite <advantage & when they Un>expectedly saw, that this Defeat was Attended with the <Retreat of the> Remainder of the Army, they found themselves at full <Liber>ty to Act Offensively against us.

As to the Shawonese; a part of them was always perfiduous, & declared for the French in the Last Warr; but the Bulk of that Nation still Remained faithfull, & did us great Service; the Delewares are our own Indians, & were depended upon by us, in Conjunction with the Sound part of the Shawonese, & the Six Nations, to Preserve the Western Indians in our Interest, or at Least Prevail Upon them to be Neuter; but to our great Surprize, they, the Delewares, & Shawanese, have taken up the Hatchet against us, & with uncommon Rage and Fury carried on a Most Barbarous & Cruel War, Burning & Destroying all before them, & have in this Short Space of time been able to Lay waste a Considerable Tract of Country, extending a Vast Length; from beyond the Apalaccian Hills in Virginia to the River Delaware;

& it may be expected, that they will next fall on Jersey, & perhaps New York, as they follow the Chain of Mountains, that we call the Blue Hills, which take their Rise in New England.

You will see by the papers enclosed, that the Indians have proclaimed War. with great Solemnity against all the English & threaten not to Leave one of them alive; & assign, as a Reason for this, that they have been too Long treated by the Six Nations, to whom they <are subject, as Women, but will now show them that they are Men.

By all Accounts > they have Sold them <selves to the French, & their Towns > lying Scattered, some on & beyond the <Ohio, others on Both > Branches of the Susquehannah, & others again <on the Waters of > the River Delaware, & haveing in every of their <Towns, Indians > of Other Nations, they are Capable of Doing abund<ance of > Mischief, they give out, that they have sent some of their Chiefs to the Cherokees, & other Southern Nations of Indians, & that they have Received favourable Answers, & in the Spring expect great Numbers of Indians to Join them, & to Assist in the Distruction of this, & the Neighbouring Provinces, & tho' much of this may be a Vain Boast, & without Truth, Yet I think we have Reason to Believe they will Act with all the Force, they Can procure, against us, by the Secret intelligence, which Accompanies this, & which was Communicated to me by a Person, who has formerly had Considerable Dealings with them, & has known their Secrets, whose name I desired may be Concealed, they would have their own people Believe, this is Scheme to Recover their Lands, & to Reduce both the English & French to Narrower Bounds, but tho' they may assign this or Any Other Reason for their Conduct, it appears plain to me, by the French being said to be Privy to it, & it being Inconsistant with the present Engagements of the Six Nations to General Johnson, that this is Meer Pretence, & that those Indians are intirely under the Direction of the French, who have fallen on those Measures, not only to Render it impracticable for his Majesty to Undertake the Reduction of Fort

Duquesne but <to Cause a diversion of the Forces employed in the other Expeditions; and it must be acknowledged to be good Policy, as the French can no way Make war so> Cheap as by employing <Body's of Indians,

But> whatever may have been the <Success of the Delawares & Shawonese at> the Instigation of the French with other Nations, <they have failed> in their Application to the Susquehannah Indians. th<o they are> in general of their own Nations, perhaps they may have prev<ailed on> some few of their Loose young Men to Join them, but the Greatest & Best part of them Continue true to us, & have assured this Government, that they will take the Hatchet against the French, if we will give it them, & Act along with them, as you will see by their Messages, which Scarroyady & Andrew Montour delivered to me; & therefore, I sent those two immediately back to them with such encouragements, as I could then under the differences, that Subsisted between me & <my> Assembly, be Warrented to give them; & at the same time sent <Scar>royady & Montour to the Six Nations to inform them that the <Delaw>ares & Shawonese had fallen upon this Province without <the> Least Provocation on our part, & desired to know if this was <done> with their Privity; and if not as those Indians were dependent <on> them, that they would Call them to Account for their Outrages, & Prevent them doing the Like for the future,

The Susquehannah Indians Complain Heavily & not without Reason, that Neither the Six Nations nor General Johnson <have> sent any Message to them, tho they were Promised by your Excell^y: <& m>y self that Messengers should be sent to them as soon as the <Six> Nations should have Concluded with him, but I shall take Care to <make an Apology, as I Propose to send for them to Come & Confer with me on the Plan of our Operations, & shall assign to them their part of it, when it will soon> be seen what Numbers <they Can bring to our Assistance, & with> what Vigour they will Act.

The Southern Indians in our Alliance a<re very Nu>merous, & Capable of affording us Considerable As<sistance, but I>

am afraid have never been invited to take part with us in the Present dispute, the French are now using Means to turn them against us, which it is our duty to disconcert, & a timely application may draw a Number of them to Join & Assist us the Next Spring.

a true Copy examin^d. by

W^m. ALEXANDER Sec^y.

INDORSED: Ext<ract of a Letter from> Gov^r. Morris, to his Excell^y: General Shirley Dated 3 Decemb^r. 1755

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

D. S.¹

Albany 27 July–4 December 1755–

John, Cornelius & Joe, three River Indians having applied to the Hon^{ble}. William Johnson Esq^r: Sole Superintendent of Indian Affairs, & laid before him a certain Paper, signed by several of their chief Sachems, setting forth that certain Lands therein described, do belong to the above named Indians & was never sold by the true Owners thereof and which they the above Indians also affirmed and further said that the greatest part of said Lands were in the possession of Colonel John Rentzelaar of this City and were taken up & occupied by him & some other Persons, without any Deed or payment having been made for the same to the right Indian owners thereof. And the said Indians did require & insist, that a proper Consideration should be paid them in Money by the Persons now in possession of their aforesaid Lands when they would assign over to them their right & Title.

hereupon the Hon^{ble}. William Johnson Esq^r. sent to the s^d. Col. Rentzelaar & desired his Attendance.

¹ In the Canadian Archives. See Indian Proceedings, 1755, May 15 — June 21, note, under the later date.

This Day he came & there were pres[ent]¹ as follows.

The Hon^{ble}. Will. Johnson Esq^r.

Col. John Rentzelaar

Peter Wraxall Secre^{ry}. for Indian Affairs
and The Three above named Indians.

Colonel Johnson read the Paper above mentioned to Col. Rentzelaar, when the said Rentzelaar declared, that no one Foot of those Lands were in his Possession or belonged to him, but were in the Possession of sundry Persons living about Kinderhook & Claverroot.

The Indians then asked Col. Johnson['s] Advice, whether if they could sell their Title to any white Persons, he would advise them to do it. The Colonel told them that he could not pretend to determine upon the Justice of their Claim, but that if any Persons who would examine into the matter, were willing to purchase their said Title, and they were satisfied to dispose of the same, he thought they were at liberty to do it, and that white People would settle the dispute better amongst themselves than the Indians could do with them.

Albany 27 July 1755.

Prest.

The Hon^{ble}. William Johnson

Peter Wraxall Secre^{ry}.

William Printup Interp^r.

Carighwage a Tuscarore Sachem.

he says, that he came down in a Battoe to Schenectady with a white Man, that on His Arrival there he was dispatched hither to Gen^l. Johnson with a Letter from Arent Stevens Interpreter. he further says that his Grandfather told him to tell the General,

¹ In a small number of cases, in these proceedings, words or syllables at the end of lines were lost in copying. Apparently the manuscript was bound, and the mssing parts, being covered by the binding, escaped the photostat.

that the Promises he made to him at Mount Johnson should be faithfully fulfilled.

The said Indian also says, that when he came to Arent Stevens, he asked him the s^d. Indian how it would now go with the Indians as Gov^r. Shirley was offering them so much money to go with him and whether General Johnson was to be left to go by himself after all the Promises made him at Mount Johnson. he further says, that the white Man who came down with him in the Battoe took him immediately on their arrival at Schenectady to Arent Stevens & told him if he did not make haste, General Shirleys Agents would lay hold of him & tempt him with money to go to Oswego. he replied that it was agreed in the Council of the 5 Nations, that as he was now appointed Sachem he must take care of the News at his Castle & not go to Oswego.

He asked General Johnson what all this working with the Indians meant for by what he had told them at Mount Johnson they looked upon him to have the sole Direction of their Affairs, and that these Proceedings had caused great Confusion amongst the Indians.

That he met several Indians on his way dow[n] in Battoes going to Oswego and that if these Methods of giving sumes of Money to the Indians were pursued, he was of Opinion they would delude all the Indians as they went along.

General Johnson replied

That these Proceedings were very contra[ry] to his Inclinations & Opinion & done with out his Consent or knowledge. That he had wro[te] to Gov^r. Shirley about it & hoped it might help to put a Stop to them, and that he was sensible these Methods would raise great Confusion amongst the Indians, who left Mount Johnson fully satisfied & well inclined. That he expected the Promises made to him at Mount Johnson would be

fulfilled & gave him a String of Wampum to carry this Message to the Confederate Nations.

Albany 29 July 1755.

Pres^t.

Hon^{ble}. Will^m. Johnson Esq^r.

Peter Wraxall Sec^{ry}. for Indian Affairs

William Printup Interp^r.

Otrowana a Chief Cayouga Sachem & Six Sache[ms] and Warriors of Onieda Tuscarore & Messasaga

Otrowana spoke as follows.

Brother

When I & the rest of my Bretheren here present came as far as where Gov^r. Shirley now is at Col. Glens near Schenectady, the Gov^r. called me to him & said, " You Cayouges w^{ch} way are you going. I replied I was going to Albany to see my Brother Gen^l. Johnson; the Gov^r. said come turn back again & go with me, I am going to Niagara. But I left Gov^r. Shirley & went over the River to Schenectady. While I & my Company were Securing our Canoe, several Persons who I understood were employed by Gov^r. Shirley, laid hold of the Messasaga Sachem who was one of my Company & were ready to pull him to peices pressing him in such a manner as if they would force him to go to Niagara. I spoke to them & said, dont stop us here, if you have any thing to say let us have a Meeting in Town. Then several Persons laid hold of them & carried them to Justice Fishers & as soon as they got into the House a great many People employed by Gov^r. Shirley joined the Company. When they were all met Col. Lydius came & brought a large Bag with many Belts of Wampum. he & Justice Fisher spread them out before them, & told him that the King their Father had employed both General Shirley & Gen^l. Johnson to go out & fight their Enemies. that Gen^l. Shirley was going to Niagara & Gen^l. Johnson to Crown Point if God spared their Lives. Then Lydius spoke to them as follows.

Bretheren

hear well what I am going to say, My Heart aaked within me for the Loss of a great Oneida Sachem called Conochquanie. You Oneidas are Elder Brothers to the Cayouges, & the Pain will never get out of my Heart, till I have got a Scalp or Prisoner to put in the room of that Sachem, upon w^{ch}. he gave us a very large Black Belt of Wampum

Lydius then laid down a much larger Belt of Wampum & said to ¹ m[e] pray inform me how I am to proceed in fulfilling this my Intention. Brother I beg you will put me in the right way how I shall mannage.

Upon w^{ch} I told him, the Method he had now taken was the same I always followed when I wanted to get People to go out a fighting with me. After I had spoke with one large Belt I then flung down another, went away & wait[ed] to see who would follow me. this Method y[ou] have made use of & it is Customary amongst us.

Lydius then said, What I have now don[e] I do both for the Oneidas & Cayouges because, both have lost a great Sachem & Warrior & I intend it as much out of regard for y^r. Nation as for the Oniedas. I hope youl put me in the right way to get fighters to follow me, for I am fully detirmined to go a fighting to Niagara, & some of us will go to one Nation & some to another in order to get the Indians to go with us & if we meet any Indians on the road we shall take them along.

I asked Lydius whether his Proceedings were with General Johnson's Consent & Approbation. Lydius replied no. They were acting for themselves & going a diff^t way fr[om] General Johnson

Brother

After this was all over the Belts of Wampum were put again into a very large Bag, then we were pulled & hauled by one & another telling us, "Come now you must turn back & go along

¹ Name marked out in the manuscript. It was evidently Otrawana.

with us & urged us in so strong a manner that we had much ado to get out of their hands.

Albany the Fourth day of August

1755. The foregoing Proceedings of
this Record from Page 1. to page
83. I Attest

PETER WRAXALL

Secr^{ry}. for Indⁿ. Affairs.

Albany 8 August 1755—

Three Warriors of the lower Mohock Castle were sent to General Johnson by the Sachems & Warriors of said Castle with the following memorandum of Canadagayea the Chief Sachem of said Castle & also to inform Gen^l. Johnson of the proceedings of General Shirley & his Agents.

“Memorandum taken from Canadagayea who desired that his Deposition should immediately be sent to Warraghiyagy, which was the following, and concerned Yohahoaano, (Gen^l Shirley) he spoke in the presence of several of the Lower Mohock Castle at Mount Johnson Aug^t. 6 1755 — and said.

“That when Gov^r. Shirley came to the Castle he applied to him to be his Speaker to w^{ch}. he hardly would agree & told Lydius who spoke to him for it, that he would serve him that day but not the next.

Gov^r Shirley then with a Belt of Wampum condoled the Losses of their People & passed some other Ceremonies according to Custom

Then gave the Belt.

Then with another large Belt he told them that when he parted General Johnson he asked him how many Indians of the lower Mohock Castle was to join him, when he answered that 20 Men were ready for him at Whistle, wherefore he should be glad those 20 Men were to set off with him immediately.

laid down the Belt

Whereupon the Mohocks said they knew nothing about it after which he took a Paper out of his Pocket & told them that these doings of General Johnson seemed very strange to him, as it was him raised Gen[^l]. Johnson to the Post he was in now.

Then Governor Shirley further asked them whether General Johnson did not allow them 10/ a day for going upon the out-scout and also if he had not told them that those Indians who would serve the Crown in this Expediti[on] were to have £5 apiece after their return if Successful, and that it should not be lost upon them that might happen to be killed as their Family was to receive the said Sum.

The Indians said it had not been told them — (when John Fisher & the rest looke[d] at one another & smiled)

Then Gov^r. Shirley further acquainted the Indians that he lodged some £5000-Sterl^g. in General Johnsons hands for the use of [the] Indians.

At parting he told them that he must take the People along that was working []¹ the Fort, as he wanted hands in the Bat[^{toes}] as they were in his Employ.

Canadagaye also said that they hear[d] Gov^r. Shirley stopped all the Waggons that was pressed for General Johnson upon the River.

All these doings he said appeared strange to them & should be very glad to have their Brother Warroghiyagys answer to it, especially concerning the Fort as no Body was working at the Fort & they soon leaving their Families.

Deposed in the presence of

Arent Stevens ”

General Johnson's Answer to the Three Warriors who brought the foregoing Memorandum

Pres^t

Peter Wraxall Secr^y

Arent Stevens Intr^r.

¹ A word omitted in copying; probably “at.”

Bretheren

I told Gov^r. Shirley according to what you agreed on when I saw you last at my House — that there were Six of your People who were ready to Attend him — I promised him no more — I wrote no such Letter to him as I am informed he showed you nor sent any Belt of Wampum by him.

Bretheren

It was not Gov^r. Shirley who raised me up, it was as I told you at our public Meeting, by the King your Fathers directions to General Braddock. Gov^r. Shirley has lodged no Money in my hands — the Money I received for manning your Affairs, was put into my hands by General Braddock, he having a Power from the King your Father for so doing. If Gov^r. Shirley told you I had orders to Allow you 10 Shillings ^{per} day or to give you £5. ^{per} Man after your return, he imposed on you, for I never had any such Orders

All my Promises I will faithfully fulfill to You, as I have always do[ne,] and you may depend upon it, that those who remain true to their Engagements & go with me, I will always remember & do every thing for them in my pow[er] and I am sorry to hear that the Workmen were taken away from building your Fort, I wi[ll] write to Justice Fry to press Men to finish it as soon as possible.¹

Head Quarters

Camp at the Great Carrying Place

21 Aug^t. 1755.—

Four Mohock Indians sent some time ago by General Johnson with a Message to the Cagnawag[a] Indians in Canada & a Belt of Wampum in order to prevail on them at least to stand Neuter between the French & us. returned & joined Gen^l John-

¹ This Fort was building by Directions of the Lieut. Govr. of New York (upon Gen^l. Johnson's Application) with a Fund raised by the Govt. of New York.— *Footnote by Wraxall.*

son this day at the Camp. They reported the following Answer of the Cagnawagas to them & to General Johnson's Message.—

“ Brethen

Last year we opened a Road for you & us to trade to Albany, but find the Annogongues have stopped it up by killing the English. We sent to their Sachems & expressed our uneasiness at it. We sit still and do no harm. however our said Ro[ad] is now shut, & we leave it to you to find anoth[er]

gave a Belt.

Bretheren

the French Priests by throwing Water upon our Heads, subject us to the Will of the Governor of Canada — but as you are a free People be careful of your safety & do not engage Your selves in the Quarrels between the English & French

a Belt

“ Brother Warragheyagy

We have received your Message desiring us to stand out of your way lest you should tread upon us, Bro^r. we return you thanks for your warning, but it is not in our power to comply with it, for the French & we are one Blood, & where they are to dye we must dye also. We are linked together in each others Arms & where the French go we must go also.

Gave a Belt for General Johnson &
returned that he sent to them.

Vide page 90. the Conference there recorded should have followed,¹ but by Mistake the following Speeches were entered from the rough Minutes on these Records before the Error was discovered

P. Wraxall Secre^{ry}.

¹ Wraxall's note relates to the proceedings at Lake George on August 31st.

Camp at Lake George 4 Sep^r. 1755—

A. M.

Pres^t.

General Johnson
 Maj^r. General Lyman
 Lieu^t. Col. Whiting
 Colonel Ruggles
 Lieu^t. Col. Pitkin
 Peter Wraxall Sec^{ry}. for Indian Affairs &c.
 Cap^t. Butler
 Lieu^t. Clausse } Int^{rs}.
 W^m. Printup }

Sachems of the several Nations of Indians at this Camp
 Hendrik Speaker

Brother Warraghijagy Sole Superintendent of our Affairs.

When you went from the carrying Place you left a Message to acquaint the 5 Nations that you were proceeding to this Lake, & desired we would join you with all possible speed. We received this Message & have accordingly joined you here, & are exerting our selves to assist you in all matters within our power.

You know a Message was sent to the Cagnawagas to keep out of your way with whi[ch] they would not comply. We are now resolved to send once more & our Messengers are here presen[t] ready to set off and we now return you your Belt.¹

And now

Brother you will wait till they return when you shall know what Answer [we] receive.

Brother

It is our way upon these Occasio[ns] that the head Man we send, takes the People he goes to meet by the hand & desires

¹ A Belt Genl. Johnson left at the Great Carrying Place for the Indians to join him at Lake George.—Footnote by Wraxall.

they will come along with him to their fire place, b[ut] as it is not now a peaceable time, we imagine they will appoint some other place where you & some of your chief Men may meet with them & us in Council

Brother

As our People are always out on the Scout & their Eyes & Ears always open they heard Yesterday 3 Guns fire at the pla[ce] where we expect to meet the Cagnawagas & we are pretty certain they are now waiting for us there, as no Guns have been heard at any other place.

Brother

this is all we have to say now, as we choose to be short as we are in haste to dispatch our Deputies.¹

Camp at Lake George 31 Aug^t. 1755

Pres^t.

General Johnson

Colonel Ruggles

Peter Wraxall Secre^{ry}. for Indian Affairs &c.

Cap^t. Butler, Lieu^t Clause & W^m. Printup

Interpreters.

Deputies from each Nation of Indians.

Hendrik Speaker

Brother Warrighajaghy Sole Superintendent

When we were lately called to meet you at your & our Fire place at your House, you desired us to join & assist you in the present Expedition, to which we agreed & have accordingly met you here.

Now we inform you that we have sent out Two Scouting Parties two different ways towards the Enemy.

¹ A second speech delivered by Hendrick, closing the proceedings, is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:998-99.

Brother

We are sorry to see the Situation of your People. We are more used to fighting in the Woods than they are and when we came in yesterday we observed your Sentries very negligent sitting down & not keeping a Sharp look out. however we are ready to assist you in every respect and as we are united together with you as one People, we hope you will join some of our People in your Councils, whose knowledge & Experience may be very serviceable to you & tend to your Security & Success, as we are well acquainted with the Enemy you are engaged against and without this union of Councils you may meet with a sudden & fatal Blow.

Brother

We hope as Your People & ours are now united in one Cause you will not refuse to take us into your Councils, as that Great Man at Ohio did, who had he listened to & regarded the advice of those of the 5 Nations who were with him, that unfortunate Defeat might have been avoided, dont you follow his Example or will meet with his Fate

Brother

As we are now all going upon the same Expedition it is the earnest Request of our united Nations that for the general safety, Two Good Forts may be built, one at the Great Carrying Place & One here as both these Places are every way exposed to the French, they having had diff^t Roads to attack them and that you may by these Two Forts secure your Amunition & Stores wch should they fall into the Enemies hands would Put an End to your Expedition

Brother

We are very much disturbed at our present open Situation, for unless we defend our selves with proper Fortifications, tis easy for the French to come suddenly upon us & destroy us; they also serve as a safe Retreats in case of Necessity. We are

therefore very uneasy on these Points, for should [the] French get the better of us we should have no Security behind us & the French would certainly take Possess[ion] & build Forts at these places if you neglect to do it and proceed with their Army & take Albany and Adjacent parts.

Brother

this is all we have to say [at] present, but to acquaint you that to morrow Morning we shall send out our Young People [to] scout three different ways.

Brother

It is proposed amongst us that w[e] shall go & meet the Cagnawagas & talk with them at a place appointed by them, what will be the re[sult] we know not, but it will be proper for us to tak[e] a Belt of Wampum with us, and we desire fur[ther] that while the Army remains here we may fur[n]ish the out scout parties for if your Soldiers go out they may mistake us for the Enemy & by that means fire upon their Friends & kill them as they did at Ohio which would ruin all our Affairs.

P. M.

Eo. Di.

General Johnsons Answer to the foregoing Speech of the Indians.

Bretheren of the United Nations.

Your meeting me here conformable to Yo[ur] Engagements is not only very pleasing to me but a proof of your Duty to the Great King our common Father, and that you retain towards you[r] Bretheren the English those Friendly regards w^[h.] it will always be your Interest to continue.

Bretheren I assure you that we on our ¹

¹The remaining part of Johnson's reply is missing in the document. For the conference of September 11 and 12 at Lake George, following this, see *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1011-13. It related to the purpose of the Indian allies to return home after the battle.

Albany Wensday Morning

4 December 1755—

Present

General Johnson Sole Superintend^t. &^c.Peter Wraxall Secre^{ry}. for Indian AffairsArent Stevens Interp^r.

Three Expresses were dispatched by the Warriors & Women of the Tuscarore Nation to General Johnson one of w^{ch}. being tired staid at his House at Mount Johnson the other two came hither. Tawonthaw Speaker Delivered himself as follows

Warraghiiyagey Sole Superintendent of our Affairs

We praise God for this fortunate day which thro his Favour hath brought us again Face to Face in safety. We are dispatched by the Warriors & Women of the Tuscarore Nation to acquaint you that our Nation apprehend themselves to be in imminent Danger having received Intelligence that a French Army is designed again[st] us to cut us off. As we, the Oneidas & the Mohocks are said [to] be the People who killed the French General & defeated [their?] Army. The French have said they are making Snow Shoes & preparing every thing for a Winter Expedition, being determined to have Revenge for the Blood which we have spilt. As we look on you Brother to be one Blood one Heart & one Religion with us, We apply our selves to you for assistance in this our Distress & hereupon we give you this Belt

(gave a large broad Belt)

We request Amunition & some Big Guns as our Fort is in great forwardness, also 400 Men to reinforce us. If you delay to assist us it will probably be too late, and should we be cut off you will loose faithful & Zealous Friends. Our chief Women join in this Application & desired us to tell you that we Warriors are sprung from & are apart of themselves.

Brother

We told you before that we were one Heart, one Blood & one Religion with you. We repeat it & be assured we are determined to remain true to & stand by our Bretheren the English to the last, nor shall it be in the power of the French to alter our Resolutions or draw us off from our Union with you. We will not do as some of our Bretheren of the Onondaga Nation did last War, received Powder & Ball from you & make use of it against you.

Brother

We Tuscarores applied to the Oneidas & proposed building a Fort for our mutual safety in a proper place but the Oneidas gave us no Answer upon which we knowing our Danger agreed to build one our selves which is more than half finished.

Our Brother the Oneida whom we left at your House we imagine is charged with a Message to you from the Oneida Nation, but this is only our surmise. we have now finished what we were charged with & enforce our Message with these 3 Strings of Wampum (w^{ch}. he gave)

To the foregoing General Johnson made the following reply
Bretheren of the Tuscarore Nation

I am equally grateful to Heaven with you for our Meeting in safety & to hear that you[r] Nation are as yet well

Bretheren

You are not strangers neith[er] am I to the Boastings of the French & their Arts both by Threats & other Methods of drawing you off from your Union with us your Bretheren however to guard you against any of their Pa[rties] who may be sent against you, I will do all that is in my power to secure you and I shall send th[em] your Message by Carrüwhio (the Sec^{ry}. for

Indian Affairs) who is now going to New York to the G[ov^{rs}.] that are met there, who I doubt not will be as ready as I am to Afford you assistance.

(Gave a Belt & 3 Strings in return)

FROM MYNDERT WYMPER

A letter of December 5th in Dutch from Myndert Wymper, in Senecas' Land, to Johnson about an Indian raid on English settlers, occurring on page 70 of the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed by fire.

TO NATHAN WHITING

*Df. S.*¹

*Fort Johnson*² *December 6th 1755.*

SIR

I received yours of 29th. ult^o. at Albany, where my Hurry would not permit me to answer you. I sent by Colo. Bagly Directions in case of an attack how you are to manage. I now send you the Commissions you desired for the severall Officers & doubt not they will merit them, as they are approved of by you. As to Lowell I don't know what to Say, I am afraid he is not equal to the Thing, consider it is a great Trust to be reposed in him, and I hear he is addicted to Liquor, I mentioned it to the Commissioners, but they could not think of another. If you cannot get a proper Person, you can give him a Commission yourself.

As you wrote the Commissioners about your Circumstances there, I doubt not they have given you all the Assistance in their Power, when I spoke to them concerning the Uneasiness of those who Stayed to Garrison the Forts, their answer was, that they did not doubt but the Governments, would relieve them by the

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² For notices of Fort Johnson, see *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 1:532, in "Description of the Country between Oswego and Albany — 1757," and 3:1038–39, in "Rev. Gideon Hawley's Journey to Oghquaga, 1753."

Time their Inlistments were out; There are Waggons ordered up Nails &ca. so hope you will soon have the Barracks in good Order, as the Wheather has been so very favourable

I am extreemly hurried So that I have only Time to wish you all Happiness that Part of the Works can afford you, and a Victory over your Enemies Should they attempt an attack. Should that be the Case it would crown all and make you happy. which is the Sincere Wish of

Sir

Your hearty Friend
and humble Serv^t.

WILLIAM JOHNSON.

LIEUT. COLLO. WHITEING
at Fort Edward

TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

*Df.*¹

Fort Johnson Dec^{br}. 7th. 1755.

SIR

I received your Excellencys favour with Collo. DeKays letter the 4th. Inst. at 9 a Clock at night by an Express from Albany upon which I set out next Morning at Day break for my House, and left orders for the Interpreter to follow me as Soon as possible. We arrived last night, & this Day I sent to the Mohawks to meet at my House to Morrow Morning, where will be present Some Oneidas Tuscaroras, & a Seneca who came down wth. the Inclosed letter from Myndert Wemple,² as Soon as I have acquainted them with the behaviour of the French & Indians to the Southward of Us, I shall dispatch a proper Message to all the Confederate Nations, to whom those Indians as it is thought (who are now committing Hostilities against the English) belong, or are dependant on, I shall also Send to those

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Wemple to Johnson, November 22, 1755, *q. v.*

Indians liveing at & near the Susquahana River, over whom as well as those of the six Nations I flatter myself I have so much Influence as to prevent their annoying any of the Inhabitants of this or the Neighbouring Governments and indeed check y^e. further progress of any other Nation of Indians that way provided I have time and am not interrupted.

The inclosed French Pacquet I this day took from a Schenectady Man who got it from an Ondaga Indian Just arrived at their Castle from Canada the Same Day this Man left it, & not knowing but there might be Some thing in it necessary for me to know at present I opened It. the Man to whom it is Sent, went to New York along with the rest of the Prisonners. I should be glad y^r. Excellency would please to Send me two or three of the Youngest of them, in order to give them to Some of those Familys who have lost their Freinds in the late action as it would be verry well taken. I find by those Indians Come lately from Canada, that there were about a Hundred of the French Indians Killed many of whom died of their wounds by the way, and Since. the Gov^r. of Canada bought as many Slaves, Pawnays¹ &ca., as restor'd those who were Slain. and gave their Familys verry considerable Presents. It is expected I do the Same, & indeed there is an absolute necessity for it. If we want them again. I can I believe out of the Fund in my hands do it. all to the article of guns which I cannot get suitable for them. there is one John Abeels an Albany Trader who has for Some years past constantly carried great quantitys of Rum to the Senecas Country Contrary to Law, & in open defiance of all authority. verry much to the prejudice of the Service & the weakening our Interest wth. s^d. Nations I am credibly informed he has lately Supplied a French officer & Interpreter Called Jean cure in Indian Sinuchsis at that place wth. Rum & other Merchandise for a present w^{ch} Said Sinuchsis gave the Indians after treating with them. nay by y^e. power of his Rum prevailed on an Indian called the Grote Younge & others to go with him to Canada they are gone. and

¹ See *Slavery in New York*, by A. Judd Northup, p. 306-7.

this Interpreter is expected there in ab^t. a Month to Confer farther wth that, & the other Nations adjacent. (I have this Day offered two French Men who have lived in this province Some Years, & traded there Each a Commission in y^e. Indian Service in Case they would bring Said Jean ceur down a Prisoner. they have undertaken it, & expect they will Succeed.) I shall endeavour to prevent his tampering further with them having this Day offered a very considerable reward to two Men who are going up there, to bring him down to me if possible. or any other French Man who may come there or to any of the Six Nations. I have great hopes many Indians will Join us in the Spring if we push Matters vigourously. I shall dispatch Messages not only to all the allies of the Six Nations but to the Mississagaw Chipawais and others living the North side of the Lake, of whom I have great reason to entertain a good opinion from the kind acceptance a Message of mine met with, w^{ch} I sent last June by a leading Man of their Nation. I hear M^r. Shirley has sent also to them since that time — I am

LETTERS FROM AND TO SHIRLEY

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1024–27, are printed Shirley's letter, of December 7th to Johnson, stating his appointment to succeed General Braddock and imposing new duties on Johnson; a new commission issued to Johnson on the same day by Shirley; and Shirley's instructions, dated the 10th. A letter of the 16th from Johnson to Shirley, mentioning frontier hostilities and the Shirley commission, is printed, p. 1027–28.

THE KING TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Attested Copy*¹

Copy of His Majestys Eighth Instruction
to Major General Shirley

You will not only cultivate the best Harmony & Friendship possible with the several Governors of our Colonies and Provinces

¹ Destroyed by fire. Accompanied Shirley's letter to Johnson, December 7, 1755, printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.* 6:1024–25.

but likewise with the Cheifs of the Indian Tribes; and for the better improvement of our good Correspondence with the said Indian Tribes, you will find out some fit & proper Person agreeable to the Southern Indians, to be sent to them for this purpose, in like manner as we have ordered Colonel Johnson to repair to the Northern Indians, as the Person thought to be most Acceptable to them, to endeavour to engage them to take part & act with our Forces in such Operations as you shall think most Expedient

a true Copy Examined by

W^m. ALEXANDER

Sec^{ry}.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR AND PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.¹

New York 8 Decem^r. 1755.

MY DEAR SIR

Captain Wraxall by whose Fireside I am now sitting tells me Mr. Watts is about sending some money to you, which I think a good opportunity of signifying to you the great desire Sir Charles has to see you as soon as possible. He has something very particular he says to confer with you upon as to publick affairs, and will be greatly disappointed should you not arrive before General Shirley's departure.

Mr. Pownall, Mr. Rutherford Mr. Wraxall & myself in a Word all your Friends earnestly wish you would hasten hither as soon as possible. We are Sir

Your obed^t. & affect. humble Servants

GW BANYAR

PETER WRAXALL

Pray bring down Shirleys long angry Letter & your answer to it. Pownall extreamly presses y^r. coming down speedily. A reception from many friends here is intended you, w^{ch} will do you

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

great honour & give the Attorney Gen^l. great Chagrin. If the multiplicity of other affairs will permit you to think of the Counterparts of Mr. Clarke's deeds, pray bring with you such of them as the Tenants have executed.

INDORSED: To the Hon^{ble}. Major Gen^l. Johnson
at his House at Mount Johnson.

TO HENDRICK FREY JUN^R.

*Df. S.*¹

Fort Johnson Dec^r. 8. 1755

SIR

As the present Circumstances of affairs do not require your keeping that Fort any longer. You are therefore hereby required to deliver up to the Indians of that Castle, what Amunition there is left and then withdraw your People, and discharge them You are also to take care and store in a safe place what provisions are there and take a Receipt for them then send me your Account drawn out in a plain distinct Manner, so that I may pay you and your Men off.

I am

Sir

Your Hum Serv^t.

W. J.

TO CAPT^N. HENDRICK FRY JUN^R:

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

*A. L. S.*¹

New York 9 Dec. 1755.

DEAR SIR

I wrote you three or 4 Lines yesterday signed by Cap^t. Wraxall and myself, signifying the desire of your Friends that you should hasten hither as soon as possible. I cannot help

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

repeating this; to which I will add what Mr. Kennedy this Moment told me, which was to this Effect, that he was sure if you was here all might be reconciled, which he said he had from a Person he could depend upon: and I suppose from one who is in the Secrets of the other side. I believe they apprehend more Difficulties now than they foresaw in dividing the management of Indian affairs — I do not urge the appearance of a Reconciliation as an argument to induce you to come down, I am apprehensive as you have Notice to attend the General here, or at Boston, should you not come it may be used as a Reason to lessen your Zeal for the Good of the Common Cause, and any future Miscarriages as to Indians, may be laid at your door for not giving your attendance at the proposed Meeting or Conference which will at last take Place soon I believe. Mr. Kennedy has put me in mind of the Glass I sent you of his, & I should be glad of the Book I sent you on the Subject of fortification

I am

Sir

your affectionate & obed^t. humble serv^t.

GW BANYAR

FROM JOHN WATTS ET AL.

The foregoing is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 70–71 by a letter of December 9th from John Watts, at New York, to Johnson, about Gilbert Marselis's receipt, a money transaction, Mr Wraxall and recent military affairs; a letter of December 10th to Johnson from John Watts, in New York, dealing with pecuniary transactions; Shirley's instructions to Johnson relative to a council of the Six Nations, extension of the Anglo-Indian alliance, completion of the fort in the Oneida country and the coming conference at Oswego, dated the 10th (printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1026–27); Francis Wade's application for a commission, dated Philadelphia, the 10th; and a report of the board of trade to the King on the proposal of the Penns to grant Iroquois lands to soldiers, dated Whitehall, December 11th (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:704–7; Q, 2:410–12). Destroyed by fire.

FROM JAMES F. MERCER ¹

A. L. S. ²

Oswego, Dem^{br}: 16th. 1755

DEAR SIR

Permit me amongst the croud to Congratulate you upon your success against the Enemy may neither jealousie nor Envy, have power to lessen your fairly Acquired honors, I hope the public will enable you to make an early Campaign, & Accomplish the Conquest it has so long wish'd for, if they perform the part, uncumbent on them, from Your Zeal & Capacity, they may expect a happy Issue, I need not recommend the Bearer Lieu^t: Mills ³ to you who already know him, his integrity far exceeds my abilities, in Panygerick but I will venture to Asure you of one thing w^{ch} from his Modesty you might be the last to know, (that is) his perfect Attachment to You & Gratitude for favors recieved, During the few Months recess, I wish you all possible happiness, & when the Season will permitt Powers equal to the arduous task intrusted to your prudence & conduct, I am with the most perfect Esteem,

Sir,

Your Obliged

& Most Obedient

Humble Servant

JAMES F. MERCER

GEN^L JOHNSON

¹ Gazetter October 7, 1754 lieutenant colonel of Sir William Pepperrell's regiment, the 51st, or 2d American.

² In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

³ Lieutenant John Mills, of the New York Independants.

TO UNKNOWN PERSON

L. S.¹*Fort Johnson, Decbr 17th, 1755.*

DEAR SIR,

I have this Moment the pleasure of y^{rs}, and am much obliged to you for your kind Congratulations.

I had Yesterday the Honor of a few lines from Gov^r Morris, with Severall Papers relating to the Barbarous proceedings of the Shawanese & Delaware Indians, I have only time to acquaint you that I already Sent Messages to the Six Nations about their Behaviour, & insisted Strenuously on their using all means possible to check their Vile proceedings. I have also Sent a Message by one of our Indians to the Delawares & Shawanese, forbidding them to Act any more in that Manner at their Peril, but to join Us in ye Spring against the French and their Allies, w^{ch} would be more their interest, and greatly more to their credit than what they are at present about; they do not regard truth if they Say I Sent them no Invitation to Join Me, for I Assure you, at the several Meetings last June there were three Delawares present, whom I sent an Interpreter for, and after receiving their Share of the present, they promised to Join me whenever I called, but they did not come at my Invitation Shortly after; However I have hopes yet of their Reformation, as well as the Shawanese, if I have but time to look into those Matters & am not interrupted by Every little Trader & Fellow in the Country, as has been the Case, and find is still so; this I am afraid will Stagger the Indians & be of fatal Consequence. Excuse my hurry, w^{ch} occasions brevity, being Surrounded by All the Mohawks who came to Condole the death of my Sister & Brother-in-Law. I

¹ From *Pennsylvania Archives*, ed. Samuel Hazard, 2:535. The heading in the *Pennsylvania Archives*, "Col. Johnson to Gov. Morris," is evidently an error. The letter was probably written to Richard Peters.

propose going soon to York, where I hope to have the pleasure of Seeing You & Saying more.

Mr. Clause is at liberty, and may go to Philadelphia when he will.

I am, with much esteem,

Your most Obed^t

Humble Serv^t,

W^m. JOHNSON

INDORSED: Col^l Johnson, 17 Dec^r, 1755.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 71 is a letter of the 18th to the lords of trade on Indian affairs and Shirley's order to Johnson to meet him in New York or Boston (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:708; Q, 2:412-13, and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1023-24). Destroyed by fire.

TO JONATHAN BAGLEY

Df. S.¹

Fort Johnson Dec^{br}. 20th. 1755.

SIR

I this day had the pleasure of hearing of your Welfare, & all freinds there by an Indian Called Michael which you may be assured gave me no Small Satisfaction I have this day had a Meeting of y^e Mohawks as I am resolved to go to York in two or three days, when I gave them a charge to go to You at Fort W^m. Hennery and Scour the Woods thereabouts, so that no Enemy can Surprise you. Fort Edward or the Settlements here, provided they are kept Sober and upon Constant Duty. their Signall is a red flag when they come in Sight of the Fort. I hope you will be kind to them & give them Victuals enough but not too much liquor. If they are well Used they will go constantly there the whole winter & relieve each other.—pray Send down the French Prisoner who was Shot in the thigh and lay in your

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Encampment by the first opportunity to the Care of Lieu^t. Miller at Albany. also a return of the Military and other Stores there w^{ch}. I expected before now. We have nothing Strange here Since you left Us. My Compliments to Cap^m. Glazier and all freinds there, & believe me Sir

Y^r. Sincere Welwisher
& Humble Serv^t.

W. J.

P. S. You must not put too much Confidence in Michael Or his Son. tho they may behave well for ought I know. the Son Joseph is a wicked Dog in his Cups Whenever any of them get drunk the only way is to disarm them & tye them — & not to beat them.

To COLL^o. BAGLEY COMMD^r. of Fort W^m. Hennerly

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 71 by an undated nondescript list of names, Bentincks, Yorks, Amhursts etc.; Johnson's account, dated December 23d, with Casper Springsteen, with Springsteen's affidavit taken before Sybrant G. Van Schaick, recorder of Albany; and instructions from Shirley to Johnson to engage Susquehanna Indians in the British service, dated December 24th (printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:10). Destroyed by fire.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹

New York Decemr. 24: 1755

SIR

I wrote to you by the last post to Albany and then sent you a Commission and Instructions relating to Indian Affairs conformable to his Majesty's Instructions to me on that head: As that post has been returned some days I am much surprised that I have yet no answer from you, especially as I therein desired your

¹ Original destroyed by fire. There is a copy in Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 1067, London, England.

immediate answer, and you must be sensible that his Majesty's Service on This Continent require a Speedy and explicit adjustment¹ of those Affairs.

I now send you additional instructions,² w^{ch}. the present State of Pensylvania from the Advices I have lately received from the Government of that province require to be immediately Carried into execution.

It gives me great uneasiness that I have not received your answer to my last letter, and have order'd the Express who brings this to you, to wait for your answer and therefore hope you will not fail to send it to me by him. I am Sir

Your Most Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY

P. S. I must in particular know whether I am to depend upon your following my Instructions now sent you, and those which I shall hereafter send.

W. S.

To:

MAJOR GEN^L. JOHNSON.

EXAMINATION OF FRANCIS BEAUJOUR

D.³

Fort Edward December ye. 27th. 1755

The Examination of Francis Beaujour a French deserter

Quest. when did you leave Tinondiroga

Ans^r. Last, Monday morning.

Quest. what were ye Number of Forces then at that Fort

Ans^r. Two Hundred Regulars and one Hundred Canadians, also. forty Savages, Viz^t. Twenty Abonoquia and Twenty Iriquois

¹ "Adjudgment" in the London copy.

² In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:10.

³ Original destroyed by fire.

Quest. when did those Savages Come to Tinondiroga

Ans^r. They Came there the 15th. Instant.

Quest. what Duty do they Doe

Ans^r. Scouting

Quest. do you Suppose any on that Duty now

Ans^r. Yes Eight, and they are ordered to Scout near this and the other Fort, and are promised 1000 Livers as a premium if they obtain a prisoner

Quest. who is Commandant at Tinondiroga

Ans^r. Mons^r Lacorn

Quest. how many men are there now at Crown point

Ans^r. Fifty Regulars and fifty Canadians

Quest. how long Since the Army Returned to Canady

Ans^r. They Returned on the 14 this month

Quest. how many did the whole Army Consist off

Ans^r. Three Thousand five Hundred Viz^t. two Thousand of which were of the Regiments Le Reine & Languidox the Rest Canadians

Quest. was it known by your Forces, that the English Army were Returned home, Ans^r. Not

Quest. how many did the French Suppose the English Army Consisted off

Ans^r. Five Thousand

Quest. Why did they leave Tinondiroga while they Supposed our Army So Great

Ans^r. Scarceity of Provisions

Quest. What Quantity of Provisions have they now at Tinondiroga

Ans^r. Two Hundred Barrells of flour, and about 50 Barr^{ls}. of Pork, no Rum nor Brandy

Quest. is a General Scarceity of Provisions at Canady

Ans^r. Generally Report'd, that provisions are Scarce

Quest. Why are Provisions Scarce

Ans^r. tis Said that the Provisions sent for our Support were taken By the English

Quest. do they Expect the English Army will Attack Tinondiroga this Winter Ans^r. Yes

Quest. do they Expect their Forces back from Canady this Winter

Ans^r. Not

Quest. have you heard any talk from them of making any Attack on Either of our Forts this winter; Ans^r. No.

Quest. What Sort of Fort is that at Tinondiroga

Ans^r. it is about the Bigness of Fort William Henry, of a Quadranguler Form with four Bastions the Wall about Six feet high, and no Ditch, it being Rocky were obliged to fetch the Dirt that was Necessary from Distance, that three Sides were built with wood & Earth the other only with wood founded on a Rock

Quest. how many Barracks are there in that Fort

Ans^r. two that will contain 300 Soldiers, besides one Barrack for the Officers

Quest. how many Guns are there within that Fort

Ans^r. 12. Eight 12 pounders and 4 Six Do. & no Mortars

Quest. which is the best Side for an Enemy to Approach the Fort

Ans^r. The North West

Quest. was you at the Battle at Lake George, Ans^r. No.

Quest. how many was there in that Battle of the French Army

Ans^r. about fifteen Hundred

Quest. what was the Number Supposed killed on your Side in that Battle

Ans^r. The Number talked of was two Hundred but the officers were forbid to tell the Certain Number

Quest. what did they Judge was become of General Diskeau

Ans^r. It was Reported he was kill'd in the Battle, but Since heard by a Letter from Mons^r. Longvill that he was a prisoner

Quest. was there any principle officers besides him that Did not Return after the Battle

in the Employ of this Province he would not be otherwise concerned.

The 7th. Inst the said Arent Stevens further told me that General Shirley during his Expedition to Oswego had employed no less than 16 Interpreters & Agents amongst the Indians of the 6 Nations, some of w^{ch} had 19/ others 16/14/12 & Eight shillings ⁷/₈ day and the said Stevens complained that unexperienced youngsters should have so much when he who was Provincial Interpreter had not quite 5 shillings a day.

The same day one James Glen just arrived from Onondaga told me that John van Seys a Smith stationed there by Mr. Shirley had Meetings daily with the Indians there, treating & giving them presents. And Hermanus Peters told me the next day that the said Smith did not work for the Indians.

[] Provincial Interpreters told me that [] of his was pressed by Mr. Secretary Alexander [] summer to stay at the Oneida Carrying Place [] an Interpreter & still remains there in that Capacity & has 8 shillings ⁷/₈ day from General Shirley

FROM RICHARD PETERS TO UNKNOWN PERSON

<Reading 3^d Jan^y. 1756>

<SIR.>

<The Governour desires me to acquaint you, that the Enemy> Indians encrease in Numbers, and by <an Express that came> in the Night, he has receivd an Account that <they have> attacked a Company of Men posted for the Defence of <Gnadenhu>tten, and as is feard defeated them, tho' this be not certain <Be> pleased to make the Governours Apologies to the General for not writing to his Excellency; No Man can have done more Business than he has been obliged to do since his Return and he really had no time.

We have repeated Accounts that the whole Body of Indians is against us, and M^r Weiser is of that Opinion and thinks that

no Expence should be saved nor time Lost in engaging the Southern Indians, for without their Assistance our Country will be overrun, as the Peoples Fears rather increase then otherwise, and no Body can be got to fight. The Governour and Commissioners are here in their Way to the Indians Treaty but not an Indian has come yet that we hear of & I question whether any but such as are with Geo^e Croghan about a Dozen will come. After we see what Indians appear and what can be done, a Proclamation will issue to offer Rewards for Scalps, and to raise Men for an Expedition against the Indian Towns on Susquehanna.

If there be one hundred Indians concerned in this second attack of Gnadenhutten and they have succeeded, I assure you they will next attack Bethlehem and Easton and make a Lodgment at the Junction of the West with the East Branch of Dellaware where stands Easton.

A considerable Relief might be procured if the Six Nations would send some of their Warriors (for Rewards to be paid by <the Government) down Susquehanna River, as I am persuaded many yet wishes us well who are intimidated and would engaged for us if properly applyed to, and such Application cannot be made> by this Government any <otherways then by General> Shirley. Dear sir remind his Excellency <of dis>patching the additional Instructions for Gen^l. J<ohnson, and> the Messages to the Southern Governments about <the Southern> Indians, on whom alone is all our Dependance for any<thing> effectual to be done

I am Sir

Your humble Servant

RICHARD PETERS

The Governour desires his Compliments of the ¹ to his Excell^y., Cap^t. Morris Major Hawke, Major Kenneer, & your Self, & may I add mine.

¹ Omitted in copying. "Season" was probably written.

If the Six Nations would join in recommend it to the Southern Nations to take up the hatchet against the French and their Indians, it might have great Weight and should not Mr Johnson be desired to solicit this of the Six Nations?

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar p. 71- 2 by a letter, of January 3d, from Johnson, at New York, to Shirley, declining a new commission for Indian affairs (*Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:11); and a French letter, of the 5th, from M. Bernier, in New York, asking Johnson to indicate the manner in which Baron Dieskau can repay money lent him by Johnson. Destroyed by fire.

FROM AND TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

In *Dec. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:11-13, is a letter, of the 4th, from Shirley to Johnson, discussing the nature of Johnson's commission; and a letter, of the 5th, from Johnson, at New York, to Shirley, on his commission and powers as Indian superintendent, is given, 7:13-14.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹

New York, Janry. 6th. 1755 [1756²] p. m.

SIR

As your Excellency has now determined that I shall act by General Braddocks Commission appointing me to the Sole Management of Indian Affairs, by which Commission "All persons to whom the direction of the affairs of the Six Nations. or their Allies have been heretofore committed, and all others whatsoever are strictly required and enjoined to cease and forbear acting or intermeddling therein."

I must beg leave to repeat the request I made to your Excellency last night, that all agents or others that are acting amongst the Six Nations without My knowledge or direction, be with-

¹ In Ayer Collection, Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.

² 1755 in the copy.

drawn, as it is impossible for me to answer for the administration of Indian Affairs, if the Business transacted with them does not go through my department.

I am

Y^r. Excellency's Most obed^t. Humble Serv^t.

W^m JOHNSON

His Excell^{cy}. GEN^{rl}. SHIRLEY

FROM SAMUEL BLODGET

A. L. S.¹

Boston Jan: 7th 1756

SIR

At the Desier of a number of Gentlemen in this Town I have Composed from my Jornal this work ² However Inferior; pleas to permit me to present your Honnour with It; it is Not that I think by any means can add any Light to the Generall of that Campaign the Least of whos advantages and Knoledg far Exseads my Best and Greatiest; However I hoop it will not be unexseptable Since it is the Best Exsplanation I am able to Give of the Battle; the facts I have Laid Down are without the Least partialeti; which I think there is much Need of in Vindeation of your Honour, for I Confess it was with Great Surprise the Newmorous and Groundless odd Questions that has Ben put to me on my Return from the Camp & Elleswhair all which I have answerd with candor, altho I have Refused to Name them; and have Satisied numbers of people that has misunderstood the Conduct of affairs as they Express it as it carry with it Good Intin-

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² *A Prospective-Plan of the Battle near Lake George, on the eighth day of September, 1755, with an Explanation thereof; containing a full, though short, History of that important Affair. By Samuel Blodget, Occasionally at the Camp, when the Battle was fought. Advertised at Boston November 10, 1755; published December 22, 1755, Boston, February 2, 1756, London.*—— Reprint of Henry Stevens, Son & Stiles, London.

tion it is hooped it will met with its Deserved Reward; at the Same tim asking your Pardon for Mistakes If any Should be found in It after your Examination.

S^r. pleas to permit me to Subscribe my Self your Sinsear friend & in Vindication of your Honour

SAM: BLODGET

P: S — as the post is waighting and wrote in Great heast & for which I ask your pardon & flatter my Self I shall the more Readly Receive It

S B

To GENERALL JOHNSON

FROM NATHAN WHITING

*A. L. S.*¹

Fort Edward Jan^y 8^t 1756

SIR

Your favour of 6th. December inclosing me Several Commis-
sions for officers here I duely received; observe what you Say
as to Cap^t. Lowel I am very sensible of the objection you men-
tion, accordingly have done Nothing with respect to his Com-
mission but Wait for farther advices; I now hand you a return
of the forces belonging to this Garison, would observe to you that
a pretty many of Maj^r Mathew Company are returned as absent,
& by some Complaints of the Men perhaps more returned for
Duty than are really here; this I find to be a mistake upon the
muster I intend a Muster of all the Men this Day as I think
it my Duty to know exactly the Numbers in Garrison, as I would
not disoblige the Maj^r. I should be glad you would desire him
to Send up all his Men immediately. I send you also the State
of the provision and Artilery Stores. I Cant get the Commissarys
to Send up bread we have had none this ten Days, but What
the Soldiers have brought from Lake George

Mr De Peyster has Sent up Wagons as far as Sarotoge Who

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

have Left their Loads there which the Soldiers are obliged to fetch on their backs I could have born with it, had we not enough for every one to do to Cary on the Necessary business here & horses might easily have been Sent up with bread —

I have got up three Chimneys in the barracks, & one in the old House almost finished, one in the Guard House the Men might in a few Days more be tolerably Comfortable if they had Necessary provision and Cloathing as the articles of bedding & Cloathing have Not been Sent up the people Suffer very much the Want of them they have as yet been very patient having been told they would be Sent up as Soon as there was any Slaying they now grow uneasy as they think it very possible those Articles may be brought on Horses the New York Soldiers are the most in want, if Clothing is not sent Soon I dont know what will be the Consequence. nor do I See how they can Subsist. I hope Some measures are taking to relieve those of Connec^t. in the pay of New York as their time is out the middle of January. I beg the favour you would make out Mr. Dyer a Seperate Commission for fort Maj^r as his at present is only interlined & Confines his duty to Cap^t Gaylor's Company I am Sensible you were hurried When it was done I shall take it as a favour to have it renewed I imagine that through a mistake you made out Commissions as Ensigns instead of Second Lieuts, as we have no Ensigns, neither had they in New York I should be Glad of Liberty to alter them

I send you the Examination of a french deserter which I took as he past to Albany. by that you will have all the Intelligence I can give you of the Enemy; Cap^t Rogers was there about the time he deserted I have not his report but hear he thinks there was a thousand Men there. dont think me too importunate for renewing my request for Liberty to go Home for a Season, beleive me to be with the Sincerest Regard

Your Honours most Obliged &
very humble Serv^t.

N. WHITING.

PS the Magazine was endangered by the great rain we had
Some time ago the Water Stood in a pond round it I have
dug a dren thro the Bastion the South Side I dont See any
damage done

W^m JOHNSON Esq^r

FROM WRAXALL

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:14-31, is printed a communica-
tion, dated January 9th, to Johnson from Peter Wraxall, "Some Thoughts
upon the British Indian Interest in North America, more particularly as it
Relates to the Northern Confederacy commonly called the Six Nations,"
with appendix, containing information given by Indians August 8 and
September 4, 1755, concerning Shirley's efforts to influence them; in
6:998-99, is printed also the information given September 4th.

SHIRLEY AND HARDY TO JAMES STEVENSON

Df. S.

[*New York, January 10, 1756*¹]

Deliver to His Excellency Sir Charles [Hardy or or-]der
the Cloathing sent by the Assembly of Pensilva[nia] for the
Troops in Garrison on the Northern Frontiers, & which were
sent to you from New York by M^r. Alexander Colden

W SHIRLEY

To JAMES STEVENSON Esq^r:
at Albany

The Articles sent according to M^r: Franklin's Letter of Dec^r.
2^d. 1755.

1339 warm Waistcoats.....	750
1000 pair mill'd Stockings.....	750
332 pair knit Mittens.....	332

¹ Date supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

New York, Jany 17: 1756.

SIR

I desire you wile from [time] to time deliver to General Johnson, or his Order any part of the above Cloathing, for the uses of the Garrisons of Fort William Henry, & Fort Edward.

CHA^s: HARDY

To JAMES STEVENSON Esq^r.
at Albany

TO DAVID BLAUVELT

*Df. S.**New York, January 12, 1756*

[]

On my arrival at Albany from [] Lake George I received a Letter from Mr George Ludlow of New York with 55 coats w^{ch} he informed me were sent by your Directions and designed as a present to the Provincial Troops under my Command from the Inhabitants of the precinct of Orange Town.

As the Troops were all discharged except such as remained in Garrison at Fort William Henry & Fort Edward, I have made use of your Benevolent Intentions by ordering the said coats to the Soldiers belonging to those Garisons, to whom they will be a very welcome & a well-timed Benefaction.

please Sir to communicate to our Generous Friends of your Precinct, my grateful Sense in behalf of the Army I had the honour to Command for their Beneficent Intentions, and let them know the Disposition I have made of their Donation, will be extreamly acceptable & useful.

I am

with my best Wishes

Sir

Your most Obed^t.hum serv^t

To CAPTAIN

W JOHNSON

DAVID BLAUVELT
of Orange Town

INDORSED: Gen^l Johnson's Letter to Capt David Blauvelt of
Orange Town with thanks for Coats sent for the
use of Troops

New York 12 Jan^y 1755

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

D. S.¹

New York January 13 1756

Instructions to Major-General William Johnson.²

- 1st. You are to acquaint the Six Nations that I succeed the late General Braddock in the Command of all his Majesty's Forces in North America.
- 2^d. That at the meeting to be soon held at your House with the Indians of the Six Nations they be desired to attend the Several Meetings which I have proposed to be at Oswego next Spring of all the Nations in their and our Alliance in order to concert such measures as may be for the mutual benefit of them and us; and you are to attend yourself at such meeting.
- 3^d. You are then to acquaint them of the Behaviour of the Shawanese and Delaware Indians in Destroying the Settlements and murdering the Inhabitants of the Several Provinces of Pensilvania &c.
- 4th. You are then to deliver to them my Speech herewith sent you, which you are to enforce by all arguments in your Power, and with such presents as you shall Judge necessary.
- 5th. You are to assure them in the Strongest terms that I shall do all in my power to protect them and their Allies from any Danger they may apprehend from the French, and as the Building Forts in the Several Nations will not only

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Cf. Shirley to Johnson, December 10, 1755, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1026 -27.

Secure them from an Attack of the French or their Indians but will also more Effectually fix them in the British Interest.

You are to let the Indians of the Cayuga and Seneca's Castles know that if they are desirous to have Forts built for the protection of their Castles as is done for those of the Mohawks; and the Tuscarora, Oneida and Onondaga Indians have desir'd me to do for them, I will give orders for the Erecting of them, and you are to take care that Forts are built as soon as may be for the Tuscarora, Oneida, and Onondaga Indians, according to the Model herewith sent you in such places as you shall Judge most proper, and to supply them with whatever you shall Judge absolutely necessary for the Defence of such Forts, and if they shou'd desire to have Garrisons posted therein which you are to dispose them to do as much as possible; you are forthwith to acquaint me of it.

- 6th. You are to acquaint them that it will be for their ease and Conveniency to be supply'd with whatever Goods and Commodities they shall want in Exchange for their Furrs and Pelleterie, near their own Castles, if they desire it, I will cause Trading Houses to be built in their respective Nations; where they shall be furnished with whatever they want at Cheaper rates than they have hitherto been and be allowed the best prices for their Skins and Furrs, that can be afforded, and the Strictest care taken that they shall not be impos'd upon in any part of their trade.
- 7th. You are to take care that they be furnish'd with Skillfull and carefull Smiths or Armourers, and such as shall be agreeable to them.
- 8th. You are to dispose them as much as you can, to be desirous of having English Ministers reside among them, in like manner as the Mohawks have, for the Instruction of them in the knowledge of the Christian Religion, and performance of Divine Worship among them; as also to teach

their Children the Indian Language; and to let them know that in such case I will order Chappells to be built for that purpose, and procure Ministers to do the before mentioned duty among them; and acquaint them that their Bretheren of the Mohawks Castles have found great benefit and Satisfaction from it.

- 9th. You are to Visit the Several Nations of the said Indians as often as is needfull, and to Inform Yourself of every-thing that may be further done for fixing them in the Interest of the English and a dependence upon his Majesty; or if they have any Grievances or Complaints to make; an Account of both which you are to transmit to me as soon as may be.
- 10th. You are to use every Expedient in your power to cultivate and Improve a good Correspondence with the Indians of the Six Nations, and their Allies and Endeavour to prevail on them to take part and Act with his Majesty's forces in such operations as I shall think most Conducive to the good of his Majestys Service and if notwithstanding the Messages already sent by Yourself and the Six Nations to the Shawanese and Delawares they should still persist in their Hostilities against the English you are in that case to tell the Six Nations that we are Determined to revenge the Injuries done by those People, and that we expect they will Chastize them for such their Behaviour as it bids Defiance to their Authority which the Six Nations have always maintained over those Indians, and to make them sensible that unless they do this, they will not only lose that Authority forever but with it the Character which the Six Nations have hitherto maintained of being the Masters and Superiors of those Indians.
- 11th. You are in my Name strictly to forbid all Persons whom you shall at any time hear of or find treating or Conferring with the Indians upon any Business of Publick concern without my special Authority and direction given them

under my hand from Intermedling or Acting therein upon any pretence whatsoever at their Peril and forthwith to acquaint me with their behaviour.

12th. You are to use all the means in your power to obtain all possible Intelligence of the Motions and designs of the French by employing and sending Indians or others to such places as you shall judge necessary and to give them proper rewards for their Services which Intelligence you are to transmit to me immediately.

13th. You are to be as frugal as possible in your Execution of the trust reposed in you, to render accounts to me of all expences, and to draw upon me from time to time for such Sums of Money as you shall find necessary to employ for his Majesty's Service in the management of Indian affairs under your direction.

14th. You are to use your utmost dilligence in the severall points contained in these Instructions conformable to the powers and Authorities given to you by a Warrant or Commission from the late General Braddock dated at Alexandria the 15th day of April 1755. In consequence of his Majestys Instructions to him; and to make report to me of your proceedings therein, and of all Material Occurrences which may Affect his Majestys Interest with the said Six Nations or their Allies, and to observe and follow such further Instructions as you shall receive from me as Commander in Chief of his Majesty's forces in North America for the time being.

Given under my hand at New York the thirteenth day of January 1756.

W SHIRLEY.

GENERAL WILLIAM SHIRLEY TO THE SIX NATIONS¹

D. S.

The Speech of His Excellency Major General William Shirley
General and Commander in Chief of all His Majesty's
Forces in North America.

To the Sachems & Warriors of the Indians of the Six Nations.

“ Bretheren

The Great King of England your Father having committed to me the Command of all His Forces raised & to be raised upon the Continent of North America and in a particular manner commanded me to protect your Country and the Lands which your Forefathers have conquered and are of right your territories, against all violence & Attempts of the French our common Enemy, and to cultivate a strict Friendship & alliance between him & you. I take the first opportunity of communicating this to you by Major General Johnson whom I have now ordered to visit you & take care of your Interest.

Bretheren

Since I came to this Place I have heard much News which concern you as well as all the English & therefore do now send General Johnson to speak my Mind to you.

Bretheren

Perhaps you think the Weather looks somewhat Cloudy, the French are proud & have for some time past been very insolent more so than is fit for you & us to bear. They threaten more but be no frightened. I am not so. They are but few, we are many, they are but a handful, if we all take up the Hatchet against them, it behoves you Bretheren to be wise and to remain stedfast to your old Friends the English; the Great King of England is determined not only to protect you as well as his subjects in America but to chastise the French for their repeated Insolencies.

¹ Original destroyed by fire. Inclosed in Shirley to Johnson, January 13, 1756.

Bretheren

The Governor of Pensilvania hath informed me that he hath sent a Message to you of great importance by Scarrooyady and Andrew Montour, I hope you have heard them with great Attention and have considered well what they said.

Bretheren

The Indians called the Delawares & Shawanese who live in & near Pensilvania have for a long time past lived in Friendship with the People of that Province, Maryland & Virginia, those People have always treated them as Friends & Brothers, and yet they have without any Provocation, and without giving them any Notice, taken up the Hatchet against them & struck their Tomahawks in them whilst they lay asleep in their Beds not expecting any harm from them, they have killed & Scalped numbers, they burnt their Houses & Barns & have killed their horses & Cattle.

Bretheren

The People of Pensilvania are always a Peaceable People, they did not love War, not because they are weak & unable to fight, they are strong & have great numbers of Men, this Behaviour of the Delaware & Shawanese Indians hath made them resolve to fight and they will have revenge.

Bretheren

The Indians the Delawares & Shawanese always lived under your Direction, they looked upon you as their Masters, and you looked upon them as Women, who wore Petticoats, they never dared do anything of Importance without your leave, for they knew if they did you would chastise them, yet those People have now dared to make war upon your Antient Friends.

Bretheren

It behoves you to join heartily with the People of Pensilvania in punishing those Indians, for unless you do, we cant but think you have given them leave to do what they have done, and if they have not your leave yet it behoves you more to punish them, if you dont they will dare look you in the face, they will think themselves as good men as you, and you will loose the Name of being their Masters.

Bretheren

I must again desire you will join in chastising those Indians, that you will send some of your Warriors against them, that they may know you are still our Friends, that you are Men & they are but Women.

Bretheren of the Onondagas & Cayugaes

When I saw some of your chief Sachems & Warriors at Oswego, your Hearts & my Heart seemed to be one, you promised to be true Friends to the English & to join with us against our Enemies the French, and I promised to do all in my Power to protect you against the French; you desired I would build a Fort in your Country, which I will do as soon as the Weather is fit for Men to work, you also promised to send some of your Sachems to meet me next Spring at Oswego.

Bretheren of the Oneidas

Some of your chief Sachems & Warriors met me in my way from Oswego at the Great Carrying Place, I desired them to tell me whether your Nation would join heartily with us against the French but they told me they would not give any answer, till they had consulted the rest of your Sachems & Warriors, you desired me to send you a number of Men to build you a Fort which I understood was to be for you & the Tuscaroras, I sent you a Number of Men to build you a Fort, but I have heard that they went away, since which I have sent more Men to you for that purpose and I hope they have almost finished it.

Bretheren of the Mohocks

In my return from Oswego I had not time to stop at your upper Castle at Connajohary, but I sent my Secretary & some of my officers there to console with you for the Loss of your Great Sachem Hendrick & other Warriors at Lake George & to wipe away your Tears & to inquire after your Healths. I visited your lower Castle where your Chief Sachems & Warriors there told me, that they & we were one, that our Enemies were their Enemies and that when the Hatchett was lifted up against our Head it was against their Head.

Bretheren of the Six Nations

It is now your time to resolve whether you will join heartily with the English against their & your Enemies; I told you before that the Great King of England is determined to chastise the French and all those who join with them & for that purpose I am now raising a great Army to go against them early in the Spring; if you join heartily with us, the Work will be easy, your Country will then remain in Peace to you, & the Neighbouring Nations will know that you are still able to conquer them.

W. SHIRLEY

By His Excellencys

Command

WM. ALEXANDER

Sec^{ry}.

FROM ROBERT RODGERS

A. L. S.¹

Fort W^m Henry 14th Jan^{ry} 1756.

Set out with a party Under My Comand with Orders to Distress the Enemy at Carilon — we Marched Down the lake George on the Ice Till we Came to y^e. first Narrows & there we Campd the first Night: y^e. 15th in y^e. Morning Set Out Again & Traveled that Day 25 Miles & then Campd till Midnight & Set

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

Out [*Again*¹] and traveled Again on the Ice till we Came within 6 Miles of Corilong and there we lay all day on y^e. 16th [*Day*¹] by the foot of a Great Mountain without any fire and ab^t Sunset we Set out and Traveled By Corilong within Half amile of the fort; and ab^t 4 O Clock in the Morning we Came to y^e. Lake Champlain and waylaid a point on the East Side of the lake and ab^t Seven O Clock there Came Two French Men with a horse and Slay loaded with fresh Beef Bound from Crown Point To Carilong we Imediatly Made them Prisoners & left the Horse and Slay and Set Homewards and on y^e. 19th day at 8 o Clock We Arived at fort W^m Henry all well and Our prisoners Safe

A true Journall ~~W^r~~ Y^r. Hule.

Ser^t

ROB^T. RODGERS

To GEN^L JOHNSON

FROM JOHN C. HARTWICK ET AL.

There are found in the Johnson Calendar (See p. 72) the following papers, which were destroyed by fire: a letter of January 13th to Johnson from John C. Hartwick, at Staatsborough, proposing a plan for better defending and governing the provincial frontiers (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:294-96; Q, 4:191-92); Hartwick's letter of the 15th to Abraham and Paulus Petersen and other Mohawks, conveying congratulation, condolence and counsel, with request for signatures to a petition (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:296-98; Q, 4:192-93); the address, undated, of Mohawk chiefs and others to King George, commending Hartwick's plan and petitioning for a land grant in his behalf (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:298-301; Q, 4:193-95); and Hartwick's letter, of the 15th, expressive of gratitude to Johnson and desire for his prosperity. P. 73, a letter, of the 17th, from Johnson, at New York, to the lords of trade, arguing that his office should be placed on an independent basis and showing the need of provincial legislation to undo land frauds (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:644-48; Q, 2:376-78, and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:7-9); not destroyed. Also a letter, of the 17th, to Johnson from

¹ Erased in the original.

Mindert Wemple, in the "Senecas country," about Frenchmen, goods and scarcity of food; destroyed by fire.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:709, is a memorial of Johnson to the lords of trade (not sent) praying for payment by the crown for expenditures disallowed by the assembly; dated January 14, 1756.

FROM THE CORPORATION OF KINGSTON

L. S.¹

Kingston January ye: 17th. 1756

May It Please Your Honour

We are Informed That you are to have a Conference With The Mohawks Indians, and We Thought, In Duty We Were Obligated to Let You Know The Malancholly Condition The Poor Inhabitants at Minissink Lye Under and Likewise Some part of our County of Ulster, by The Many Cruel and Barbarous Murderings and Burnings, Which Those Savages Doe Commit Upon The Inhabitants,

The People Daily See Nothing but Fire and Sword Devestations and Desolations before Their Eyes, and Dread to become a Victum to an Inhuman Enemy, they have Laid Waste and Made Desolate about Sixty Miles In Lenght Upon Delaware River, as We Always Understood That The Delaware and Shawanose Indians Was Subject, or at Least Tributary, to The Mohawks Indians We Desire That you'll be pleased to Lay our Case before Them And to Endeavour If The Mohawks Will Order or Direct The Delaware and Shawanose Indians To Cease, Committing Any Further Hostilities Upon The Inhabitants, And If They be So Obstinate to persist in Their Wicked, Proceedings, If We March Up against Those Indians, and

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Destroy Them In The Manner They Attempted To Doe Us,
That The Mohawks Indians Will Not be offended at us.— We
Should Take It as a Great Favour If You Would be pleased to
Let us Know. What Answer the Mohawks Indians Will be
pleased to Make to You Upon The Case, We Write you Above,
If They Will Give us Their Assistance. We Are Your Honours

Most humble Servants

Hend Sleght,
T Hersbrough
Evert Wynkoop
John Hardenbergh
Charles Brodhead

A: Gaasbeck Chambers
Johannis De Lamette
David DeLametter
P. Edmundus Elmendorph

TO SIR THOMAS ROBINSON

L. S.¹

New York, Jan^y. 17th. 1756

SIR

The inclosed letters and Papers of the Baron De Dieskau, which I have the Honour to transmit to you, were given me by the Baron at the Camp at Lake George after the Action of the 8th. of September, I sent them directly to Sr. Charles Hardy, who not having had a proper opertunity of sending them to England has returned them to me, to send by his Majesty's Ship the *Nightingale* that Sails to Morrow.

I did not presume to trouble his Royal Highness, or his Majestys Ministers with any letters, or Papers relative to the affairs of my Provincial Military Command, apprehending it would be going out of my way to do so, as I sent all necessary Papers to the Governments under whose appointment I acted, Supposeing that they would of course transmit every thing that was proper to be sent.

By the inclosed Sketch of the Country betwixt Fort St. Fred-

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.46, London, England.

erick, & Fort Edward,¹ which the Baron delivered me, I ought to observe Sir that the French were at that time as little acquainted with it as the English, I take the liberty to send you a Sketch of the same part of the Country, compiled from the Journals of the Scouting Parties I sent out there this Summer compared with the Informations of the Indians and Hunters.² I ought also to observe, that there is a misapprehension in the Barons letter where He imagines that the Canadians and Indians forsook Him, they continued at the attack till all was near decided, and the last push was made by some of their Indians.

Sir, as I had opportunity of experiencing in the Provincial Military Command I was Honoured with last Campaign, some matters that it highly imports His Majesty's Ministers to be apprized of, I cannot but think it my Duty to lay them before You to the best of my own Observation, and more especially as they may at this Juncture be liable to be Misconceived from the appearances of the Events of this last Year.

Provincial Forces acting by themselves are so constituted that neither by their Form or Discipline to be fitt for the various Duties and Services of a Campaign of any continuance, nor for the difficulties, Fatigues, & Events of a Siege. there cannot be any well grounded dependance of Success or good to the Common Service in Expeditions under an Army so Constituted.

These were some of the principall reasons which led me to desire my dismissal from the Provincial Service in a general letter, I wrote to the Several Governours who raised Troops under my Command, Coppy of which Letter I herewith transmit.³

As I have thus on one Hand from my own knowledge ventured to say what Provincial Forces undertakeing a Campaign by themselves in the Form of an Army are not fitt for. I ought on

¹ See opposite page.

² See opposite p. 422.

³ Johnson likewise inclosed his letter of October 10, 1755, to Lieutenant Governor Phipps.

the other to say, where their Merit, and Strength lyes, and what they are fitt for.—

- 1st. They are fitt for what may be properly called an Expedition, or an Excursion of ten or twenty Days Continuance
- 2^d. the objects of his Majesty's Service in this Country being either to Erect Forts, or to demolish those erected by the French in their encroachments on his Majestys Lands, must I cannot but conceive be the Work of his Majesty's Regular Troops, but as the way to all Such is thro' Woods & Wilder-nesses the Provincial Forces of these Countries as Irregulars can the best of any Forces in the World Cover His Majesty's Troops thro' these Woods to where their proper Scene of Action lyes. they can also in the Same Manner escort up all their convoys, and would I should hope, did any occasion call for their Service upon Such Duty act with Bravery, Spirit, and Success.

If I have been guilty of any neglect or omission in not writeing before to his Majesty's Ministers, or am now too forward in troubling You with this, I beg it may be imputed to my Misapprehension not my want of respect.

I have the Honour to be with the
most profound Respect

Sir

Your Most Obedient

Faithfull & most Humble Servant

W^m. JOHNSON

To
the Right Hon^{ble}. SIR THOMAS ROBINSON

INDORSED: New York Jan^y: 17th: 1756.

Sr. W^m. Johnson.

R

March 11th

TO BARON DIESKAU

*Df. S.**[New York, 18 Jan^y. 1756]*

SIR

I receive the Sword you send me, not only with Sentiments of the highest Esteem & Gratitude but as a Testimony of that Friendship wherewith you are pleased to honour me. Permit me sir to assure you, that it shall be the Ambition of my Life to manifest to the World in general that I am not unworthy of your Friendship, & to Convince you on every occasion, within the Extent of my Abilities, that I honour your Character & am unfeignedly disposed to render you every Mark of my Esteem & Affection.

May every Felicity attend you & believe me My Dear Baron that I am

with the utmost Cordiality

Sir

Your Affectionate

& Devoted Ser^t

W JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To

The Baron

De Dieskau

INDORSED: Baron de Dieskaus Letter
to Gen^l. Johnson with his Sword
and Gen^l. Johnson's Answer

18 Jan^{ry}. 1755



JOHNSON'S MAP OF LAKE GEORGE AND VICINITY
(See reverse)

EXPLANATION

- 1 Fort Edward
 - 2 Fort William Henery
 - 3 Wood Creek called by ye Indians Osserâge
 - 4 Creek Skaihyohôwane
 - 5 Foot of ye Mountains
 - 6 South Bay & Drowned lands { called by the Indians Ticonderaquegon
signifying a Mass or Conflux of Waters
 - 7 Lake George call'd by the Indians { Caniaderôite signifying the
Tail of the Lake.
 - 8 A Bay call'd by ye Indians } where the Scouting Parties hid their
Kanhusker a Corner } Canoes.
 - 9 First Narrows
 - 10 A Bay call'd by ye Indians Sakundawîde
 - 11 Second Narrows The French advanc'd Post . . . below which
The Carrying place Over the Falls.
 - 12 A Remarkable high Mountain call'd by the Indians Tokaghwanker-
aneghton. NB beneath this is a little bay from whence in ye course
of the prickt line (green) turning eastward thro a Gap in ye
Mountain where the Creek runs thro, 'tis thought by some a road
may be found,
 - 13 The Sugar Bush
 - 14 The French Fortified Post which they call'd Carillon call'd by the
Indians Tieonderôge signifyeing ye Conflux of two Rivers.
 - 15 Fort St Frederic
 - 16 The Narrows on ye Drowned Land. Two Rocks.
 - 17 A Lake, The Country here is full of Such.
 - 18 A remarkable high Mountain call'd by ye Indians Canucksôhory
 - 19 Advanc'd post of the English Forces from ye Scouting parties went
out to South Bay & ye Narrow in ye various directions of the green
prickt lines.
 - 20 The Point, opposite to Fort St Fredric, calld by the Dutch Crûm Pt.
 - 21 Presqu'Isle.
 - 22 The Great Lake called by the Dutch Lac Corlear, by the French Lac
Champlain & des Iroquois, but by the Indian Themselves Caniadere'-
guaront' which either signifyes the Lac that is ye Gate or Door, or
else signifyes Barent's Lake so call'd after a Dutchman of that Name
which the Indians pronounce Guarent. The Entrance between Fort
St Frederic & Crûn Pt into the Lake ye Indians call Tek'yadough-
niyarîga signifyeing two Points of high Land opposite to each other.
 - 23 Kingiaquockenoc Falls where is a Portage of 200 Yds.
 - 24 Narrows not above 30 or 40 Ft: across where Wood Creek runs into
ye drowned Lands.
- NB The Red Lines show ye Roads that have been open'd & made for
Carriages. The red prickt Lines ye directions in which tis supposed
that such may be found. The green prickt Lines shows the Routs
of the Indians & Scouting Parties.

FROM NATHAN WHITING

A. L. S.¹*Fort Edward. Jan^y 24 1756*

SIR

I have Wiled away the time till now & have met with Nothing extraordinary, I dont find I am any nearer that point of happiness I promised my Self by going Home, than When the forces first went of, but As hope or expectation Supplys the place of enjoyment I Live upon that yet. the Garison is now pretty Well Setled & I should have no difficulty were it Not that the New York people are uneasy for want of the blankets And Cloathing they Say they were promised & Which they really want, it is time me thinks, they Should have Winter Cloathing If they are to have Any; I have repeatedly Wrote to the Commissioners And Mr De Peyster, Why they Are not Sent I know not. I believe they would Some of them have gone of before now were they not really Satisfied that I had done every thing in my power to get their Cloathing.

I have Lately Sent a Scout of eight Men as far as the falls on Wood Crick, they were dogged the Day they got to the falls by Some partys as they Supposed of hunting Indians, they were alarm^d in the Night by the firing of Guns, & Shifted thire Logging & in the Morning opposite a Mountain Where they Lodged, they discovered the head quarters of the Indians & about thirty Setting round their fire within 15 rod. While Cap^t Grant Who was the head of my Scout was determining What to do he found they had discovered him so he made of and they persued him all Day, he came across the South Bay to the other Fort the Same Day Which was the Day after Rogers got in with his prisoners, one of Rogers Men was out alone upon the Mountain West of the Fort Henry Where he was fired upon by An Indian, but miss^d then the fellow Says he fired at the Indian, killed him Went up to him to Scalp him, When he Saw eight more running

³ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

toward him upon Which he run they fired after And persued him, he Escaped them & got in here the Next Day. this is his Story, I immediately Sent & Informed Col Glazier that his Man was Safe & to know of him Whether he knew Any thing of the matter, he tells me they discovered Some Tracts but found Nothing of the dead Indian; a considerable flight of Snow fell that Evening — may they always be so disappointed in all their Attempts upon us; Cap^t Grants tells me the Ice of Wood Crick Will Scarcely bare a Man & he thinks never is Strong so that tis Not possible he thinks for them to Visit us that way with Artillery this Winter he Says he Sees no possible way to get to South Bay & thinks it much more difficult to go by Woodcrick than Lake George Which he Imagines the only Way When ever forces are Sent on this quarter.

I have now only to tell you that I am Informed by Cap^t Gaylor, Who I discharged upon Cap^t M^c Ginnis Company, Coming up, that the Commis^{rs} nor M^r D^ePeyster would pay his Company Any thing for the time they have Garison^d this Fort, they Say they have no Orders. I think it very Strange, they dare not venture to advance so much money When I'me Sure they need not fear the Honour of the Gov^t. As I had my orders from you for detaining part of them forces I make my Application to you & doubt not you will do every thing proper for you to do to enable Cap^t Gaylord to get his money I beg Leave to Subscribe with due Esteem

Your Honours

Most humble Serv^t

N WHITING

To WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq^r

INDORSED: Fort Edward 24 Jan^y. 1756.

Col^l Whiting Letter

FROM BEAMSLY GLAZIER TO ROBERT ROGERS

In the Johnson Calendar (See p. 73) is a letter, of January 29th, from Beamsly Glazier, at Fort William Henry, to Robert Rogers, directing him to reconnoiter Crown Point (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:283-84; Q, 4:183). Destroyed by fire.

FROM BOLEYN WHITNEY

A. L. S.

Dublin January 31st 1756

SIR

I take this opportunity of the bearer Captⁿ. Mansel going from this kingdom to America to congratulate you upon your glorious victory you have gain'd ag^t. the perfidious french and Indians which has in a great measure retriev'd the misfortune brought upon our affairs by the defeat of Gen^l. Braddock our whole kingdom is overjoy'd to find that this Success is owing to a gentⁿ. of this countrey and say they could expect no less from the nephew of the Brave Sir Peter Warren and you may easily imagine what joy it has diffus'd among your own relations and friends. I lately saw your Bro^r. John who manages my Lady Warrens affairs in this countrey, he told me his Bro^r. had sold his company in Col. Pools Regiment, and that he intended to goe to America and serve under your command he is in great esteem among the military men here and most acceptable to every one that knows him — your father considering his time of life is in a pretty good state of health but his sight is greatly impaired the rest of the ffamily are all well and in high spirits — my friend Capt^t. Mansel will be ambitious of your Patronage and friendship I think by the time you may receive this he will be eldest Captⁿ. in gen^l Otways Regiment which is order'd for America I am under the greatest obligations to his father and ffamily and shall be greatly oblig'd to you for any acts of favour and friendship that may be show'd to him he is esteem'd a very good officer and tho' a young man has been upon important services which have given him experience in the military way. I presume to address you on his behalf as I am persuaded you remember my attachment to your ffamily and the regard Sir Peter Warren had for me and wishing you all prosperity and success in your glorious enterprizes — I remain Sir, your most — ffaithful and obedient humble servant —

BOLEYN WHITNEY

FROM RICHARD PETERS

A. L. S.

Philadelphia, 2^d Febr^y 1756

SIR

Whilst I was attending the Governor in his Journey to <the Fronteer> of this Province I received your Favour for which I make you my heartiest Acknowledgments. To the Condolances your Friends have made You on the Deaths of your Sister and Brother I very sincerely joyn mine.

I hope Mr Clause will be of Service at the general Convention of the Indians and desire you will be pleased to favour him with a Copy of the Minutes of what passes at it, for the use of this Government, and not suffer him to stay a moment after the Indians have given their final answer but proceed with the Minutes and your Dispatches to Governor Morris, who will wait with Impatience for them as he has suspended the Execution of several measures necessary to be taken against these horrid Ravagers on our Borders till he knows y^e determination of the Six Nations. It is not to be doubted, notwithstanding all that is doing or can be done for our Defence, but they will continue to murder our Inhabitants and destroy their Plantations until the Government shall offer high Rewards for Scalps and form some vigorous offensive Measures against them.

As to the Information given by the Smith of our Inhabitants having killed and scalped some of the Seneca Indians at Conewago in our Province, of which Sr Charles Hardy has wrote the Governor an Account I have his Honours Orders to assure you that it is scarce possible any such thing could have been done, as none of the persons concernd in this Government have ever heard of it, tho the Governor, several of the <Council, Mr. Weiser & myself have lately been at Conewago the place where the Murders> are said to have been <committed and> that this River is not in any Path used by the Warriors, but runs thro the

interior Parts of the County of York and on the South and East sides of the South Mountain where I have not heard that any Warriors have come since my knowledge of the Province. Excuse me for suggesting a Suspicion. May not some of the Senecas have joynd the Delawares in their Incursions, and in order to vindicate themselves in case they should be discovered have framed this Story. However a Copy of S^r Charles Hardys Letter to Gov^r Morris is sent to M^r Weiser with orders to make the fullest enquiry into this matter directly & when his answer comes it will be immediately forwarded to you. But as no time is mentiond in the Information when this should have happened, nor no place that can be distinguishd nor no names of persons I do not think M^r Weiser will be able to learn any thing about it.

Perhaps you may see the Senecas at the General Convention who have the Information and by them discover the truth, and according as this shall turn out the Governor desires you will act towards the Senecas and treat with them in such manner as shall best conduce to preserve their friendship & the Reputation of this Province for doing Justice to the Indians on all Occasions.

Scarroyady has favoured the Governor with a Letter dated the 4th Jan^{ry} from Oneocguago so that I expect he will be very favourable to you at the Convention.

<He & M^r Montour¹ deserves the thanks & Esteem of this and all the other Colonies for undertaking this dangerous Journey> and executing their orders so well and faithfully. I <desire> you will be pleased to make them my Compliments and <express> for me the vast pleasure I received to hear of their Safety. They may return with M^r. Clause who has a Credit on M^r Stephenson to defray their Expences and if necessary, to provide them w^h Cloaths.

The Governor of Virginia acquaints Gov^r. Morris that 130 Cherokee are already arrivd at Jacksons River in Virginia & with the Provincials are going on an Expedition ag^t the Lower Shaw-

¹ Andrew Montour, interpreter. For a sketch of Montour, see Francis Parkman, *Montcalm and Wolfe*, 1:58.

onese Town w^{ch} is considerd as a Secret of State. M^r Dinwiddie further says that the Cherokees have expressed themselves in our favour, say they will take up the Hatchet ag^t the French & furnish us with a thousand of their Warriors in the Spring I wish this may be true or one half of it. No news of a great while from England. Every Honour conferrd on you gives me a sensible pleasure and woud his Majesty or his Ministers accompany the Title of Baronet with a proper order on the Treasury, it woud be doing still better and no more than what they shoud do. My kind service to M^r Wraxall. I am with a very sincere and cordial Esteem

Sir

your obliged

humble Servant

RICHARD PETERS

Scarroyady & Montour must know if any Senecas have been scalpd in this Province having both been near the place several times this year.

INDORSED: Feb^{ry}. 2^d 1756

Letter from M^r Peters
of Philadelphia

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

New York 3^d. Feb: 1755 [1756]

DR. SIR

Give me leave mongst the many of Your friends to congratulate you on this Signal Mark of Regard which His Majesty has so lately Certified to you and hope it is only a prelude to future good fortune.

No Doubt but you will hear of or See the Inviteracy of the Boston writers. You and I seem the Butt of their Spleen and

Resentment. this last Paper of theirs is most Scandalous, No Doubt but you will see it, and be convinced how much we are respected by y^t. Set of Banditti.

I am Sorry I have not Some good News to Send you in regard to publick Affairs, the Packet has brought nothing very toothsome. I live in hopes to See better times. if you have Any News I should be glad to be favoured with a line. Adieu Dr. Sir believe me to be with Much truth & Esteem

Y^r. Sincere Wellwisher &c.

WILL: EYRE

S^r. WILL^m. JOHNSON

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

New York 4 February 1756

DEAR SIR

Vandenbergh arrived last Night: I rece^d your Letter this Morning. and am oblig^d to write in a hurry as the Governor will I believe dispatch the Express this Afternoon. I am pleased to find by your Letter there are some of the Susquehanahi at your House. It would be a satisfaction to know from yourself the Reasons they alledge for their quarrel with the English. I wish you may accomplish your Scheme of bringing some of them to live among the six Nations, and to make the latter incorporate those Nations whom they call their dependents into a Nation confederate with the six Nations. The Interest of all will be one, and we can assure ourselves of their Friendship with greater Certainty than at present. The six Nations themselves appear to me not so united as it could be wish^d they were. If the French Emissaries be kept from among them, and even Messages from being sent by Indians, the Party the French have among them would drop of course, and till this be done I fear they will act very differently, and not any so heartily as the Common Interest

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

requires. You are the best Judge how to effect all this. The Governor says they will want Powder at Oswego the Beginning of April if not supplied sooner I wonder if there be such another People under the Sun as the English. Can it be supposed that after *all that Mr Shirley has done to save Oswego*, that a place of so much Consequence should not be better supply^d. Mr. Kennedy says an Express was sent to Scotland for Lord Loudon, for what nobody could tell, some said to come over to America. I hope it may be so — There was no Talk, that appears by the Prints or private Letters, of sending either Troops or a General. Can we be said to have either, except a few hundred of the former. The Second Pacquet was to sail in 10 days after this. No Letters of Consequence after the 15 Nov^r: Mr. Kennedy read me a part of two he had one to this Effect. General Johnson was spoke of in the House of Lords with great applause — another — your Friend Mr. Johnson is Spoke of highly, and tis not doubted his Majesty will compensate him for his Services. No private Letters that I hear mention y^r. being created a Baronet. Mr. Franks told me twas mentioned in an Article Whitehall Nov^r.— among the other Promo^s. that you are particularly distinguished as *of New York*. No Body doubts it. And that you have no Notice of it from private Letters must I suppose arise from the Letters w^{ch}. are wrote being so soon after it was done, or perhaps before for I cant tell which. I directed a Letter with your Title, inclosed to Mr. Ogilvie, with a private Letter for your self that came in the Pacquet. Tho I hardly doubt it, yet I will not address this in that manner as it will not go inclosed. No accounts yet whether the New Englanders will raise their Quotas of Men. You know I suppose that there are 3 more Vessels to be built at Oswego as large as the Harbour will admit of which is something larger than the biggest of those already built. I have nothing material to add that I can think of. Let me be favour^d with some Account of your Indian proceedings, without thinking that I shall know it from those you can send the Gov^r. who is not always very communicative: And no Intel-

ligence he receives goes before the Council but what immediately requires their advice. I am Dr. Sir

your affectionate &
obed. h^{ble} Servant
GW BANYAR

FROM SIR CHARLES HARDY

*L. S.*¹

Fort George New York 4th Feby. 1756

SIR

Last night I received your Letter Incloseing Copys of one from Colo. Whiteing, and the Indians Speech and Information.

I am inclined to beleive the French Officer said to have been at Niagara, will not so readily make an Attempt on Oswego, but rather means to frighten and intimidate the Indians, however, it is proper to take every prudent precaution, and you will inform the Commanding Officer of Oswego of this and every other Information you may from time to time receive, also the Commanding Officers at the two head Quarters at Albany and Schenectady.

The Six Nations should not be so much allarmed at the French Motions, they must see a good Garison at Oswego, and should be encouraged to give them Assistance, by repairing to that Fort, when they learn from any good Authority, that the French are forming any designs that way, I do not doubt but you will promote such a Spirit among them.

I am informed there is not more Provisions at Oswego than will serve the Garison to the last Week in March, if you send to Colonel Mercer, I must desire you will inform yourself in this particular and let me know, that all proper assistance may be given them, and in the mean time, if they should be in want, you will take all measures in your power to afford them the necessary relief, for that Garison must not be reduced for want of timely

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Supplies; I should hope if the Waters are and continue to be shut for some time, that Horses might get up with Supplies in Sacks, which on such occasions must be impressed for this Service; upon a full consideration of this matter I must desire you will send a trusty Indian to Oswego, to be satisfied in this point, and you may use my Name to Colo. Mercer upon it.

It is very extraordinary that the Commissioners or Commissarys at Albany, will not supply the Forces in the Pay of this Province, with the Cloathing agreeable to my directions, which I have since repeated by Mr. Oliver DeLancey who has wrote twice to them by my order I do by the return of your Express write to them again.

I am sorry the Surveyors will not undertake the Service they have been desired to Attempt.

I must recommend your endeavouring to prevail on some Indians to continue a constant Scout between our Forts, and the Wood Creek, and South Bay, that the Enemy or their Indians may not surprize any of our Party's from the Forts.

I am glad to find you have any hopes of putting an end to the Ravages committed in Pensilvania, the Six Nations ingageing to put a stop to them will be an earnest of their regard for their English Brethren: this matter must be strongly pressed upon them. You will as soon as possible send me an account of your meeting with them.

I am Sir.

Your most Obed:

humble Servant

CHAS: HARDY.

You will forward the Inclosed to Colo. Mercer.

The Hon^{ble}. WILLIAM JOHNSON

FROM ROBERT ROGERS ET AL

The preceding is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 73-76 by Robert Rogers's report, dated the 6th, of a scout to Crown Point (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:284-85; Q, 4:184); conferences between Johnson and the United Nations and other tribes, December 7, 26, 1755, Jan. 29, Feb. 2-28, 1756 (*Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:44-74); a letter, of March 5th, from John Pownall, at Whitehall, for the lords of trade, to Johnson on Lord Loudoun's command, Johnson's superintendency and Indian grievances (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:710-11; Q, 2:413-14; and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:40-41); a letter, of the 6th, from Johnson to the lords of trade on Indian conferences, Indian trade, forts and garrisons in the Indian country, missionaries and chaplains, and alarming news about Oswego (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:712-15; Q, 2:414-16; and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:41-43). Destroyed by fire.

TO JOHN VAN SEICE

L. S.¹

Febr^y 8th, 1756

MR. JOHN VANSEICE

As I have the sole management of the affairs of the Six Nations, and their allies, committed to my Care, & trust by his Majesty's Instructions, I hereby desire you will communicate what ever news is, or may be among the Indians of that Castle where you are, or any other, which may reach your ears to me immediately and to no Body Else, unless to the Commanding officer at Osswego, to whom you are immediately to communicate such news as may concern the Safety of said garrison. You are to promote his Majestys Interest with Said Indians as far as in y^r. power by following such directions, & orders as you may from time, to time receive from Me. Also to Mend their Arms of every kind and their working utensils for which I understand Gen^l. Shirley sent you there.

You are not to Suffer any French Emissaries, or Interpreters whatsoever to come into the Ondaga Castle if you can help it. if such should come and the Indians countenance them, you are

¹ In Boston Public Library.

in that case to tell the Indians you will acquaint me of it. You need not be afraid of any Bodys displeasure for following these directions, as I have Settled that matter with Gen^l. Shirley concerning you at New York.

I am y^{rs}.

W^m. JOHNSON

To Mr. John Vanseice
Smith at Ondaga

COMMISSION FROM GEORGE SECOND

D. S.¹

Feb. 17, 1756

George R.

Sir Wm. Johnson Bart. to be Colo. of the Six Nations of Indians & Agent & Superintendant of their Affairs.

George the Second &c^a: To Our Trusty and Welbeloved Sir William Johnson Baronet, Greeting. We reposing especial Trust & Confidence in Your Loyalty, Courage and good Conduct, do by these Presents constitute & appoint You to be Colonel of Our Faithfull Subjects, and Allies, the Six united Nations of Indians, & their Confederates, in the Northern Parts of North America, & You are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from time to time, as You shall receive from Our Commander in Chief of Our Forces in North America now and for the time being, or any other Your Superior Officer according to the Rules and Discipline of War; and We do also constitute & appoint You Our Sole Agent and Superintendant of the said Indians and their Affairs, with the Annual Salary of Six hundred Pounds Sterling, payable Quarterly at the four most usual Feasts or Days of Payment in the Year, out of such Sums of Money as shall be in the Hands of the Commander in Chief of Our Forces in North America for the time being, applicable to the Service of America; to hold, exercise & enjoy the said Office & Employment with the several respective Salaries, Perquisites

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 324.38, p. 445, London, England.

& Advantages during Our Pleasure. And We do hereby direct Our said Commander in Chief of Our Forces in America for the time being, whose Commands & Directions You are punctually to observe in all Matters relating to Affairs of the said Indians, to take effectual Care, that the said Salary of £600 be duly paid & satisfied to you according to Our Will & Pleasure herein declared. Given at Our Court at St: James's the 17th. Day of February 1756 in the Twenty Ninth Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command

H. Fox.—

FROM JOHN POWNALL ET AL.

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, v. 7, are the following letters: the lords of trade to Henry Fox, secretary of state, recommending Johnson's appointment to the superintendency by a commission from the king, dated February 17th, p. 35; the lords of trade to Sir Charles Hardy, announcing such appointment, February 17th, p. 36-37; John Pownall, secretary, to Johnson on his appointment and Indian grievances, March 5th, p. 40-41; John Van Seice, at Onondaga, to Johnson, on the condition of Oswego, March 6th, p. 74; and Henry Fox to Johnson, apprising him of a parliamentary grant of £5000, of appointment as colonel, agent and sole superintendent, and of royal support in his policy, March 13th, p. 76-77.

WILLIAM SHIRLEY TO ABRAM MORTIER

D. S.

Contemporary Copy

Boston, March 17, 1756

By His Excellency William Shirley General and Commander in Chief of his Majestys forces in North America

You are hereby directed and required out of such Monies as are or shall come to your hands for the Contingent uses of his Majestys Forces under my Command to pay or cause to be paid to Sir William Johnson Baronet or his Assigns without Deduction, or Account the sum of Five thousand Pounds Sterl. in Dollars at four shillings and Eight pence Each being for Expences

in the Indian Affairs Under His Management. And for so doing this with the acquittance of the Said Sir William Johnson Baronet or his Assigns shall be your sufficient Warrant and Discharge

Given Under My Hand at
Boston the Seventeenth day of
March 1756.

Will^m. Shirley

To Abram Mortier Esq^r.
Deputy Paymaster
at. Boston

New England

By His Excellencys Command
W^m. ALEXANDER Sec^y.

INDORSED: March 17th: 1756
A Draft from Gen^l.
Shirley on Abr^m.
Mortier Esq^r. for
£5000 St.^s

TO HENRY FOX

L. S.¹

Fort Johnson April 2. 1756

SIR

The 20th. of March I was honoured with Sir Thomas Robinsons Letter to me bearing date the 11. November.

His Majesties gracious Approbation of my Conduct previous to, and on the 8th. of September, and the honour He hath been pleased to confer on me as a Mark of His Royal Favour, adding thereto the Condesension of directing His Secretary of State to signifie the same to me, I receive with Sentiments of the highest Gratitude, and most dutifull respect.

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 46, London, England.

Permit me to assure You Sir, it is and shall be my most fervent and Zealous Ambition to manifest on all Occasions within the reach of my Abilities, my dutifull Obligations, and my loyal Devotion to His Majesties Royal Person, Crown, and Dignity.

I have transmitted to the Governours of the several Provinces whose Troops I had the honour to Command those Paragraphs of Sir Thomas Robinsons Letter which signifie to me, the Honour of His Majesties Approbation of the Behaviour of their Officers, and private Men, His Royal Commendations of the Alacrity and Dispatch with which their Reinforcements were Raised, and His Majesties Paternal Assurances of His Favour and Protection.—

I am

With the utmost respect

Sir

Your most Obedient

and most humble serv^t

W^m. JOHNSON

To The Right Honourable

HENRY FOX Esq^r.

&c^a

INDORSED: Fort Johnson April 2^d:

1756

Sir W^m. Johnson

R June 7th.

FROM RICHARD SHUCKBURGH

A. L. S.¹

New York April ye 4. 1756

SIR

Having given y^r. News Papers to M^r. Banyar to forward I have little to advise you but woud not let Slip this Opportunity of acquainting that an Agent for Indian Affairs is appointed for Carolina for y^e Southrn Inds. how far his district reaches I'm

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

not informed, One Mr. Atkins¹ one of y^e Council of y^t. Province. I have seen him at L^d. Halifax's Levee. this Cap^t. Rutherford writes. I should say Major now. I still attend Baron De Dieskau & By Sr. Chas. Hardys interest have Gen^l. Shirleys Liberty to do so. You'll see by the Papers that the Quakers alterd their Note to their Gov^t. & by the Letter of their address seem to applaud their Indian management & by what Mr. Claus says want to continue it for which they appear to be very unfit. This is y^e humble opinion of y^r. old acquaintance & very humble
Servant

R^d SHUCKBURGH

FROM DANIEL CLAUS

A. L. S.²

Philadelphia April the 5th. 1756.

HONOURED SIR

I would have given myself the Honour of waiting upon you immediately after my arrival here, but the Report of your Honours being marched with a Body of Men and Indians towards the great Carrying place not only detained me, from it, but likewise gave me a great deal of Uneasiness of not being myself among that Body, Now its not being confirmed gives me an Opportunity of sending this to you, and acquaint your hon^r. in the Name of Skaronyade Mr. Montour and all the Indians that were last Summer with Gen^l. Braddock, and at present in this City, that they were resolved to quitt this Government and live among their friends the Six Nations since times were so troublesome at Ohio they are twenty odd in Number Men Women and Children.—captⁿ George Croghan, and John Davison are likewise coming that Way, the former left this place last Wednesday in Order to Settle his affairs at Aukwik, and is to be back next Saturday, when We I hope Shall Set off for the Mohawks.

¹ Edmund Atkin, superintendent of Indian affairs in the Southern colonies. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:211.

² Original destroyed by fire.

Gov^r Morris is Striving to give me a Capt^{ns} Commission in the Provincials under Colo Clapham a N: E: Man to go to the Frontiers and build Forts at Shamokin &^{ca}, NB: The party is to consist of 400 Men only, but I can not conceive how that will be consistent with me as I plainly foresee Indian affairs must drop in this Province as there will be no Indians; Thinking your honour was from home I wrote by the Post to Captⁿ Wraxall and by his answer he advises me not to accept of Such a temporary thing as a Provincial Commission, he also writes me that Mr. Banyar to whom he read my Letter acquainted Sr. Charles with it, but he did not return from the Gov^{rs} before the Post left N; York.

This Province at present is in a most deplorable Situation The Gov^{rs}. Party and the Quakers, (whose head is Mr Franklin) are continually in Dispute with one another, and nothing but Confusion reigns here; the Enemy as reported is descending upon them with a Body of 1600 Strong; Mr Peters is Sometimes most distracted and dreads its Ruin if things go on as they do The 60,000 pound raised lately are expended to one quarter and no body knows what good was done thereby.

The young Man that made his Escape from King Shingo the Delaware, Says that the Indians told him how they found out that the English and french made an agreement to cut them off & then take their Lands in Possession, but that they would prevent that if possible, for Saith they if we only Subdue the English first we may do afterwards what we please with the French, for we have them as it were in a Sheep Den and may cut them off any time, for they had no liberty to plant any Corn yet tho' they tryed but it was forbid them and we told them that we did not give them Liberty to build that Fort in order to make Improvements but only to fight against the English.

The People were Surprized that the 6 Nations at the last Treaty had not agreed upon knocking the Delawares and Shawenese in the head; Skaronyade told them that the 6 Nations were resolved to cut them off in case they would not listen to the Message they sent now; the Governour and Council then were won-

dering that the Treaty was mentioning nothing of the Nature, I told them I did not hear the 6 Nations say any Such Thing in publick nor believed they would undertake it. then Mr. Montour Said it was agreed upon in Some of their private Councils, and other things more which never was communicated to any body yet.

They are now upon promising Rewards for Scalps £30. a Scalp and £50: a Prisoner, Before they know the Result of the 6. Nations upon the answer the Delawares are to give to their late Message I am afeard they will make Evil worse; They think here the Message to the Delawares upon the Susquehanna only, was of no Consequence or help, but Messages should have been Sent to Ohio and to the Indians who live near Fort Du Quesne.

Last Monday the 29. of March dies Moses Moyer Mishes Son who came down with me he fell Sick on Sunday Night at 12. oClock and expired the next Night about 2. in the Morning he was burried honourably in the English Churchyard, and your honour will find a paragraph about it in the News papers, Skaronyade begs of your honour to acquaint the Ralations with it.

Just now Mr. Peters tells me that this Government was going to engage 50. or 60. Jersey Indians whereof I was to be commander, I did not give him a conclusive answer but told him I would consult Skaronyade abt. it.

There is a Report in Town of a London Vessell being in the Mouth of Delaware River.

The Post goes off and I must conclude; I have given your honour a Short Description of the principal Things in Motion here and have no more to add but to remain in due Respect

Your honour^s

Most Obedient and

most humble Servant

DAN CLAUS.

P St. Just now I Seen a Paragraph in the N: York News that your Honour went a Second time towards the Carrying Place I hope and heartily wish you Success, We are to Set off the Beginning of next Week There is no News from home yet here.

FROM JOHN WATTS

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 76 by a letter of the 12th from John Watts, at New York, to Johnson at Albany about finances and military movements. It was destroyed by fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

New York, 20 April 1756.

DEAR SIR

Yesterday Morning arrived the Pacquet; which left Falmouth the 14 February, but the latest Letters are the 17th January: so that the accounts from Boston are the freshest: The Pacquet Intelligence does not mention the appointment of any General, but by a private Letter which Sir Charles told me he had, he was confident a General officer would be appointed. Several young Gentlemen are come hither from Boston. who came in one of the Men of War arrived there, who I hear say Lord Lowden was actually appointed, and one of them I am told says Transports were hired to bring over the three Regiments ordered to America. General Shirley's Conduct is universally condemned in England. They look on your Victory in much the same Light as we do, that is, it saved the Oswego army and the County of Albany &c^a. Dieskau bears the Character in England of a very considerable Officer The Ministry had determined to have it recommended to Parliament to distribute £100,000 among the Colonies concerned in the late Expedition. The Bostonians I hear are disappointed for instead of £50,000 bro^t in the Man of War arrived there it is now said only £15,000 was brought & that for the Payment of the two British Reg^{ts}. Young Mr. Franks² had been consulted about the Money proposed to be sent to the Colonies & writes fully on this Head to Mr Watts who is out of Town & we know not what he writes. Sir Charles has ordered the Indian arms & ammunion to be delivered to you.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Moses Franks of Philadelphia?

Your last Letters and the accounts that accompanied them give me very great Pain for Oswego, for if they can prevent Bradstreet and his Convoy from reaching it, the Garrison cannot hold out till a sufficient Force be sent to dislodge the French. I hope notwithstanding his mad Conduct, you will (or rather have already) endeavour to prevail with as many of the Six Nations to join him & go with him to Oswego as possible. It is almost all my hopes for I do not see how he can with such a chicken hearted Crew as I suppose the Batoe men to be make Stand ag^t the French.¹ Unless we can save Oswego, farewell to all our operations this year. the most we shall be able to do will be to retake it. My comp^{ts} to Mr. Wraxall: I deliver this with two Letters for you and two for Cap^t. Wraxall to d^r. Shuckburgh who will inclose them in a Pacquet with the News Papers. I am

My dear Sir

your most obed &

affectionate h^{ble} Serv^t.

GW BANYAR

FROM ONONDAGA DEPUTIES ET AL

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:82-85; are printed a report of Onondaga deputies to Johnson, dated April 21st, and a report of Mohawk delegates, dated the 22d. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 1:475-76; Q, 1:308, under April 21, is a council minute containing intelligence from Johnson of measures taken by him for the relief of Oswego and the protection of Forts Edward and William Henry.

FROM ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS

L. S.

Philadelphia April 24, 1756

SIR

I have the Honour to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 8th. March which Mr Clause delivered to me with a Copy of the Treaty —The Indians adhere so closely to their Tedious Ceremonies that I am sensible you must have had a most fatiguing time

¹ See Francis Parkman, *Montcalm and Wolfe*, 2:80-83.

of it. It is however some Compensation to receive the Satisfaction you Express in finding the Indians so well disposed towards his Majesty's Interest.— It was very kind and well judg'd to join Scarroyady with you in the Several matters relating to this Government, and it had no doubt a good Effect on the Minds of the Six Nations, and I have the pleasure to find by what you say that Scarroyady is in high Esteem with them.— Our particular Complaints are well and strongly laid before them, but I cannot help expressing my concern at your being obliged to repeat them so often before they woud give their final Answer, nor do I observe that the Senecas joined with the rest of the Nations in their resolutions to send a Peremptory Message to the Delawares to desist or that they sent any Deputies.

You cannot conceive what havock has been made by the Enemy in this Defenceless Province nor what Numbers of Murders they have committed, what a vast Tract of Territory they have laid waste, and what a Multitude of Inhabitants of all Ages and both Sexes they have carried into Captivity; By Information of Several of the Prisoners who have made their Escape from them, I can assure you that there are not less than Three hundred of our People in Servitude to them and the French on the Ohio, the most of them at Shingas's Town called Kittannin about thirty Miles above Fort Duquesne, and Scarroyady and Montour must have acquainted you that they saw more or less English Prisoners in almost every one of the Delaware Towns on the Susquahannah as high up as Diahogo.

At first the Enemy appeared in small Parties and committed their outrages where they could do it with more safety to themselves, but of late they have penetrated into the Inhabited part of the Country in larger Bodies and have defeated Several Detachments of our Armed forces, burned and laid waste whole Countries, and Spread a general Terror amongst us so that I have been constrained to yield to the importunate Demands of the enraged People (not being able otherwise to afford them a sufficient Protection for want of Arms, Amunition and an equal

and compulsory Militia Law) to Proclaim the Delaware Nation Enemies & Rebels to His Majesty and to offer large rewards for Prisoners and Scalps hoping that this would engage such of our Inhabitants as had any courage left, as well as all others in the Neighbouring Provinces, to hunt, pursue and attack them in their own Country and by these means keep them at home for the Defence of their own Towns and prevent the total desertion of the back Counties which there is good reason to be apprehensive of, but this measure tho loudly called for on my return from New York in December last, and since importunately and frequently repeated was not taken till near a Month after the return of Scar<royady> and Montour and by their advice they as well as we observing the Power of the Enemies to be daily encreasing and judging this the likeliest way to bring them to hearken to the Six Nations and to move for Peace upon honourable Terms. I own had I had the least notion that they could be stopt in the midst of their furious Carreer, I would not have gratified the People but despairing of this, you will agree with me no other method is so likely as this to bring a force into the Enemys Country and drive them from their lurking places and from their Towns. The Proclamation a printed Copy of which I herewith send you was not issued above a Week before I received from Sr Charles Hardy the agreeable Account of the return of the Six Nation Deputies who were sent to the Delawares and of their having assured you "they had made up that unhappy affair — and that the Delawares expected those of their People who might be taken Prisoners by us to be delivered up as soon as possible and then they promised to deliver up those they have of ours." Be assured, Sir, that I have no Prisoners of theirs, unless one can call a Delaware Indian so, who was put into Jayle in order to keep him out of harms way, being informed against and lying under a strong suspicion of having Burned and destroy'd some of the Plantations on the Frontiers. Except this I have not a single Delaware Prisoner, & this must be well known to them, and therefore their Demand does not look well especially, as they

were the Aggressors and by all forms of Proceeding (Indian as well as English) the Six Nations ought on this account to have insisted on it as a Preliminary, and the only Test they could give of their Sincerity, that they should deliver up those of our People which they have taken Prisoners and of which Numbers are known to be in their Towns, and it is expected from the Six Nations that they will cause this to be done before I be requested to lay down our Arms, who are innocent and most wrongfully and unexpectedly attacked whilst living in Peace and friendship with the Delawares and all other Indians.

You may be assured, Sir, that a peace on honourable Terms will be extremely acceptable, as we form this charitable Opinion of the Delawares that they were hurried into this Measure by the Artifice and Intimidations of the French and did always believe when they came to open their Eyes they would relent and cease injuring their innocent Brethren and Allies, who have never hurt them either in thought or Action. It was this Opinion of their good Disposition toward us that influenced us to suffer so long their Hostilities without declaring them Enemies untill the Blood streamed in such Quantities down our Mountains and filled the Vallies to such a Degree that we could no longer delay the Publication of their horrid treatment of us and wage vengeance upon them.

I do not perceive that any of the Delawares living on the Ohio came to the Meeting appointed by the Deputies of the Six Nations, or that they have been spoke to, and they are as you well know, the most numerous of all, indeed the main Body of the Delawares live at Kittannin and the other Delaware Towns on and beyond the Ohio, and have been the most mischeivous, and do still, even so late as <last Week> continue to Murder and destroy our Inhabitants, treating them with the most barbarous Inhumanity that can be conceived. I should be glad to know whether these have expressed a desire of Peace and on what Terms the Six Nations propose to Settle it, for unless these be made to desist, our Inhabitants will be in as bad Plight as ever.

A Party of Delawares lately doing Mischief on Potomac was headed by a French Officer, who was killed, and the Party routed, and in this Officers Pocket was found a Paper of Instructions from the French Commandant Monsier Dumes at Fort Dusquesne, ordering him to burn and destroy what he could meet with on that River, and to kill the English, or take them Prisoners; From the Ohio therefore we must expect the greatest mischief and all means possible should be used to separate the Delawares and Shawonese from the French there, and prevail with them not to join in ravaging, burning and laying waste our Frontier Counties. Against these the Proclamation was principally calculated and you must be sensible I cannot recall it till I know the precise Terms on which the Six Nations have or shall have mediated a Peace; You will be the best Judge of what is Proper for me to do, or what the Indians will expect from us on this Occasion of which be pleased to advise me and favour me with your sentiments which will always have their weight with me as you can always come at and settle these matters in conference with the Indians and we should be apt to at <such a Distance> from them.

The Colonies are Sensible of your Influence over the Indians and admire the Zeal with which you prosecute their true Interest and applaud the happy success that has hitherto attended your Arms and Negotiations, and in particular the Colonies exposed to the French owe you great Obligations for the dispatch with which you lately appeared with so considerable a Force at the Carrying Place and disappointed the French. May the same success attend you in the present March and may we have the pleasure to hear you have drove off the Enemy now said to have invested that important Fortress of Oswego. I am Sir with great Regard

your most obed^t Humble Servt

ROBT. H: MORRIS

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

Df. S.¹

<Fort Johnson 24 April 1756

SIR>

My Letter of <yesterday to your Excell^y.> I dispatched this morning, but I forgot to <mention> one thing to you w^{ch} I think of great importance.

Sr. Charles Hardy writes me that Gov^r. Morris by the public prints had declared War against the Delawares & Shawanese Indians. I am surprized that Mr. Morris whose Province was so much interested in the result of the 6 Nations Embassy to those Indians, who was a principal in it and to whom I sent a Copy of my late Proceedings, would not wait to hear the effects of this Embassy before he entered into this consequential Measure.

What will the Delawares & Shawanese think of such Opposition, & contradiction in our Conduct? how shall I behave at the approaching Meeting at Onondaga, not only to those Indians, but to the 6 Nations? These Hostile Measures w^{ch}. Mr Morris has entered into, is throwing all our Schemes into Confusion, & must naturally give the 6 Nations such Impressions & the French such advantages to work on against us, that I tremble for the Consequences. I think without consulting your Excellency, without the concurrence of the other neighbouring Provinces, without my receiving previous notice of it, this is a very unadvised & unaccountable proceeding of Gov^r. Morris. I cannot but be of opinion, if Terms of good Accommodation can be brought about, that in the present critical situation of affairs, it will be far more eligible than to enter into Hostilities against these Indians, especially as a few days will determine what part we have to chuse. I hope your Excellency will take this interesting

¹A copy is in the New York Public Library.

<affair into your Consideration & make use of such Inter>
position as you <shall> judge necessary thereupon.

I am

Sir

Your Excellencys

most obed^t

hum. ser^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

To His Excell^y.

GEN^L SHIRLEY

INDORSED: Fort Johnson April 24th 1756

My letter to Gen^rl. Shirley
concerning Gov^r. Morris

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹

New York 25 April 1756.

MY DEAR SIR

I have at length the opportunity of doing what I have long wish'd for I mean of congratulating you on a more substantial Advantage, than his Majesty's late Honour conferr'd on you, which with the addition made you by Parliament of £5,000 Sterling, will compleat that Satisfaction which the Service of the Publick gave you. I think if you take these two together, you will consider them as the highest Compliment paid to any American Subject. I shall endeavour to inclose you the Papers containing the Extracts of the Votes of Parliament and for additional News shall inclose you a few Paragraphs of a Letter to me from Boston. It is from a Hand whose intelligence I have found generally to be depended on. I believe I shall see Sir Charles before I put up this, if I do I may perhaps add something more.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Before the Contradiction of the News from Oswego, the Lieutenant Governor, as Sir Charles could not go himself, had offered to go to Albany to reside there and give the necessary Directions. Whether this alteration will prevent his going I know not. He was to have acted under his Majesty's Commission to him as Lieutenant Governor, and such Instructions as Sir Charles should give him — Brasier¹ has accepted of the offer of a Lt. Colonels Commission from S^r. Charles. But Fitch says he cannot with propriety accept of a Rank from this Government not superior to that which he now holds in his own Government which is Lieutenant Colonel. I cannot find tis fix'd yet:

I send you Extracts which I took from the two Sheets of Comment one of the 10 February. If there be two different Regiments to be raised I am in hopes his Majesty may give one of them to you. Rutherford's Rank of Major given him by Mr. Clinton it's said is confirmed some say he is Major of the 4 Ind^{ts} is to keep his own Company & to have 15s: p diem — I have not been out to hear any thing So can write nothing with certainty but that I am my Dear S^r.

your affectionate

& obed^t. Servant

GW BANYAR

My Compliments to Cap^t. Wraxall I have forwarded four Letters, 2 to each of you: One was sent afterwards to Cap^t. Wraxall They were all given by Dr. Shuckburgh to one Mr. Sinclair I believe to be left with Parson Ogilvie; to whom be pleased to give my Comp^{ts}. if he is among the² at this time.

¹ This should no doubt be Glazier. Beamsley Glazier was in command of Fort William Henry.

² Omission in copy.

[Extract from Boston Letter]

Boston April 19 — 1756

I can now acquaint you that your Wishes in some affairs are completed: We had a Vessel last week from England. Our Governor is superceded as General. He has received private Letters by this Vessel from Cap^{ts} Rutherford & Morris &c. Staats¹ carried the Plan of Operations last Fall to England, but arrived too late there, the Scheme or Military Plan being already fix'd and the Governors Friends not able to get it altered. The Earl of Loudon is Lieutenant General & Commander in chief in No. America & Governor of Virginia. Abercrombie is made a Major General and coming with him. Webb is made a Major General, is on board the Pacquet, and is on his arrival to take the Command from Gen. Shirley. There are six Regiments coming over, and in their room 6 Hessian Regiments are coming over to England — One of the Regiments coming to America is said to be a Highland Regiment of 1000 Men. Some of the Papers mention 4 Regiments to come from England, and 2 to be raised in America — The Transports were ready for them in February last. We imagine Lord Loudon will not be over before May, which we think rather too late for the present year. What the Plan of operation is we know not, nor where he or the Transports are intended to come, but believe that another attack will be made on Fort Duquesne. We apprehend it has been no small Blott in Mr. Shirleys Escutcheon, his drawing the Troops from the Southward, and as the Consequences have proved so bad, it is not improbable the Gentⁿ in favour of the Colony of Virginia, which is so dear to the Crown, have made a Party against him at home. I believe this news is no small Chagrin to the Governor, and has I believe compounded² many designs & Schemes he

¹ Captain Staats Long Morris, of the New York regiment, commissioned November 7, 1751 — W. C. Ford, *British Officers serving in America, 1754–1774*.

² The word in the original was probably “confounded.”

probably might have laid. He had fix'd a day for setting out for your Province but on this News has alter'd his Mind, and Mr. ¹ told me he does not go till he receives his Pacquets on Webbs arrival. The Parliament have voted £12000 for the Payment of the Expedition last year, £5000 of it to Sr. William Johnson for his Services. A Private Letter mentions that if Mr. Shirleys Friends succeed he will be appointed Gov. of Jamaica.

Knowles ² is ordered home, and made one of the Lords of the admiralty and tis thought will have a Command in the Channels.

Extract from the House of Commons Votes

Feby 10th. 1756

Resolved that a Sum not exceeding £81178:16s — be granted to his Majesty for defraying the Charge of the Royal American Regiment of Foot to be raised for his Majesty's Service in North America, for the Service of the year 1756.

Resolved That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable his Majesty to grant Commissions to a certain number of foreign Protestants who have served abroad as officers or Engineers, to act and rank as officers or Engineers in America only under certain Restrictions and Qualifications.

I long to have a very long and particular Letter from you. The Reflection ³ some of them at least throw out sly Insinuations, signifying the Folly of Harrassing the Militia on slight pretences But they seem determined to represent the best actions of Persons not of their own Kidney in the worst view. Tell Mr. Wraxall he must not think I can write to you both at a time. I am hoping there is some good News for him in the Board of Trades Letter I sent you.—

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

¹ Name omitted in copy; probably Alexander.

² Charles Knowles, admiral in 1763 and baronet in 1764.

³ Should apparently be Reflectors, issues of the newspaper, *Reflector*. See vol. 1, page 832 (note).

FROM ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS TO SUSQUEHANNA INDIANS

Contemporary Copy

<A Message from the Governor to the Susquehannah Indians by Newcastle, Iagrea and William Lacquis delivered in Council 26th April 1756 —

Brethren>

I have received an account from Sir William John<son sent me> by Sir Charles Hardy Governor of New York that imme<diately> after the Council held at Fort Johnson, Deputies were dis<patched> by the Six Nations to Otsaningo, and that they con<vened> the Delawares, Shawanese and other Indians from the several Towns on the Susquehannah to the number of thr<ee> Hundred, to whom they delivered Messages from that Council, blaming them for taking the Hatchet against their Bretheren the English, and commanding them to lay it down immediately, and that they had hearkened to this Mes<sage> and had agreed to Strike no more. What I tell you is in this Letter (here the Governour gave Mr. Weiser Sir Charles Hardy's Letter of the 16th. of April to translate to them) and when he had made them understand what Sir Charles Hardy had wrote, the Governour took a Belt in his hand and proceeded.

Bretheren

I think it necessary that the Indians at Wyomink as well Enemies as Friends should know, that Sir Charles Hardy has sent this account to me from Sir William Johnson, and as Two of You are of the Six Nations and one a Delaware, I think it is proper, that You should undertake to Notify this to them, and at the same time let them know as from yourselves, that if they are sincerely disposed to Peace, and will deliver up the English Prisoners to the Six Nations, and hearken to their Advice in laying down the Hatchet, and abide by such Terms as shall be agreed on, You can venture to assure them, that though much Blood has been spilt, and that the English in resentment of this are well prepared to avenge themselves, yet they have so great a

regard to the Six Nations, that it will be in their power to persuade the English <not to prosecute the Warr, but to accept fair, and just and honourable Terms. And I provide you with this Belt to deliver it to them with such a Speech.

Brethren

I > speak my own sincere Inclinations <when I say I am> for Peace, and not only my own but the Senti<ments of oth>ers, and particularly the earnest desires of a <number of> People who are the Descendants of those who came over with the first Proprietor, all these are extreamly desirous to interpose with the Government to receive the submission of the Delawares, and to overlook what is past, and establish for the future a firm and lasting Agreement Peace and Affection between us, and have repeatedly applied to me for this Purpose.

Brethren

As many Stories have been told to the Indians to our Prejudice, I desire you will undeceive them, and particularly I charge William Lacquis to acquaint the Delawares, that those of their Tribe who live amongst us have not had any Mischief done to them, but are treated with our usual Kindness, and are at Liberty, and live in Peace and Plenty amongst us. I charge You William Lacquis to declare the truth to the Indians, and to assure them, that they have been imposed on; and relate the care that has been taken as well by the Government of New Jersey as this, of all the Indians who have staid with us and that they enjoy our Protection, and live as happily as ever.

A String

Brethren

Pascinosa and some other Shawanese and other Indians have not broke faith with Us, but endeavour'd to dissuade the Delawares from Striking us — When <they> could <not succeed they separated from them, and now live together in some place near Wyomink — I would have you go to them, and let them likewise know this account from Sir William Johnson, and assure them from me, that if they are inclined to come within the Inhab-

itants, You have my or>ders to Conduct them, or if they <do not incline to come now, but> at any other time, they will on <sending me> a Message be provided with a safe Conduct and <meet with> an hearty Welcome; Let them know that Scarro<oyady> related to me what passed between him and them, <and> that Aroas and David have likewise made me acquainted with what was said by them, when they were last at Wyomink.

Then the Governour gave them a String to give Pascanosa Newcastle, Iagrea and William Lacquis returned the Governour an answer Viz^t. That the Messages were very good, and what they approved mightily, and would undertake the Journey, and deliver them faithfully, but there they must de<sire> the Governour to make their Apology to Coll^o. Clapham¹ and to tell him, that nothing but the Governors Commands would have enduced them to delay their coming to him.

The Governour promised he would, and then told them, that Mr. Spangenberg² was desired to be present, having some Delaware Indians under his Care, that he might hear what was delivered to them — He desired they would go by way <of B>ethlehem, and take with them one or more of the Indians <ther>e, and that Mr. Spangenberg would prepare these Indians for their Visit, and persuade some of them to accompany them to Wyomink.

A true Copy

Richard Peters

Secretary.

A true Copy Examined by

BENJ^A. BARONS

Secretary.

INDORSED: A Message from the Gov^r.
to the Susquehanah Ind^s.
deliver'd in Council the 26
April 1756. Philadelphia.

¹ Colonel William Clapham.

² August Gottlieb Spangenberg, Moravian bishop, consecrated in 1744.

FROM SIR CHARLES HARDY

L. S.

Fort George New York 28th April 1756

SIR

Mr: Claus delivers you a Letter from Gov^r. Morris ¹ giving his Reasons from declaring the Delawares &c Enemys. The measure appears to me hasty, as I wrote you some Days ago, & I hope you will satisfy the Six Nations with respect to it.

Thus farr I am of opinion with him, that it is unreasonable in the Delawares to make an Exchange of Prisoners a Preliminary, when they must know none of their People are in Captivity in Pensilvania, and such there cannot be in any other Province. This part of the Delawares demand should be Carefully, and particularly explain'd to the Six Nations, or their Delegates, that they may not be in an Error, and be lead to beleive that the English have many Prisoners, when it is so notorious they have none; If this unhappy breach was made up, it would give another Turn to our Affairs, and most probably enable those Colonys, who are so Essentially affected by their Inhuman and Barbarous Incursions, to Act with more Vigour in Support of the Common Cause: surely if the Six Nations are our Friends they will bring this matter to a final and short Issue, by Chastiseing them if they decline obeying their Orders, and Cherish and receive them as Friends and Bretheren if they lay down the Hatchet. But they must at the same time take care to withdraw themselves from the Neighbourhood of the French and their Indians on the Ohio, least by a too frequent Intercourse with them they relapse, & turn Robbers & Murderers again.

I am sorry to hear the Lands on which our Two Forts stand on the Northern Frontiers of this Province are so infested with French Indians, and none of our Allies move to remove them I cannot but say this Conduct has not the Face of Acting like Bretheren and Friends, after such Solemn Assurances of their

¹ Morris to Johnson, April 24, 1756, q. v.

Attachment to us; It appears clearly to me, that the French are, and intend if possible to Cut off the Transportation of Provisions and Stores, both Northward and Westward, which I fear they will in a great measure effect, and of consequence Impede, if not wholly destroy the Prosecuting the intended Expeditions, if the Six Nations do not heartily join with us, and drive them, and keep clear and open those Roads — This is a matter of that Importance that I cannot but recommend it seriously to you, and on which our hopes of future Success principally depends.

Your Letter of the 18th. from Burnettsfeild I have received and think you have judged prudently in taking the advice and opinion of his Majesty's Officers for your further Proceedings.

Your Conduct merits great Applause, and you may be Assured meets with it, with all those you could wish it to do.

The Advices from England of Lord Loudon with more Troops for this part of the World you must have heard of.

I Congratulate you on the Notice the British Parlaiment have taken of your Services.

I am

Sir

your most Obed^t.

& Humble Servant

CHAS. HARDY

P. S. The Indians Mr. Claus Carrys with him I hope will Interest themselves with the Allied Nations, in Accomodating matters with the Delawares.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Barr^t.

INDORSED: New York 28 Apr^l. 1756

Sir Charles Hardys

Letter to me

TO JEREMY QUACKENBUSH

D.

Fort Johnson 29 April 1756

You are hereby ordered & directed:

Whereas upon the late Alarm I issued Orders to the officers of the several Companys on the Mohawks River to join me with their several Companys at the German Flatts & in disobedience to the said Orders the following Persons¹ in Cap^t. Connors Company refused to appear to wit.————

These are therefore in his Majestys name to order & Command you Jeremy Quackenbush Serg^t of said Company to levy the Sume of Twenty five — Pounds this Curr^y. from each of the said *Delinquents* & in case of not sufficient Distress to commit him or them to Jail according to the Law of this Province in this Case provided, and the Sherrif or Jayler of this County is hereby required to receive the Body or Bodies of such person or Persons & him or them in safe Custody to keep until Said Fine, or Fines be paid together with the Jallers Fees for all w^{ch}. this shall be your Sufficient Warrant

Given under my
hand at Fort
Johnson this 29 day
of April 1756

Casparus Brunk
Lieu^t Jacob Halenbeck
Dirck Bratt
Jachim Staats

¹ Probably the four persons named below.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹*New York 30th April 1756*

DEAR SIR

I received yours of the 22th. yesterday you will before this comes to hand have got my last wherein I gave you all the News I could then learn from England; Sir Charles after I had sent my Letters told me he had received a Letter from Major Rutherford, who acquaints him that he found on his arrival Lord Lowden was appointed Comm^{dr} in chief. He mentions, that the King had conferrd the Honour of a Baronet on you, & what he thought still better the Parliament had voted you £5000. He says two Regiments are to be completed to 1000 each & sent over with Lord Lowden The Scotch Fuzilleers and Highlanders. The Royal American Regiment is to be raised here in America, thirty German officers & some English officers are appointed to come over, and some officers to be appointed in America. This Regiment is given to Lord Lowden himself, & to consist of 4 Batalions, each Batalion of 1000 Men & three Feild Officers: where the devil they'l raise 4000 Men in America I cannot see. Sir Charles told me you was to have an appointm^t by which I understood a Salary; how much I believe he does not know. I am glad to see the Prospect increases of your accommodating Matters between us & the Delaw & Shawenese Do not spare any pains to accomplish it you can hardly do your King & Country a more essential Service, and you'l win the Hearts of the Quakers by it (if that were any Motive) who utterly disapprove of Gov^r Morris's Proclamation. I have some hopes any bad Effects that might otherwise happen from it will be prevented by the Interposition of Sir Charles who has sent copies of your late Proceedings to Philadelphia. I cant tell what you'l do for the Goods necessary to be given at the Meeting at Onondaga,

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

which is certainly of the greatest Importance, there are no Goods proper to be purchased here tho some are hourly expected, I suppose you have sent Orders here to send up what you want.

Gen. Shirley arrived here on Wednesday last. I don't think he'll go till the arrival of the next Pacquet, but this is my own Conjecture. I hope you'll have Arms & ammunition enough, & the Indians must be content till the Fall for other Presents. I am apprehensive you'll run great Risques at this Meeting, you'll therefore do well to be more cautious than your natural Disposition leads you to be of your own Safety. I have much the same Sentiments about Oswego as you have. You don't mention how farr Bradstreet has proceeded. Some here say he's got up I don't believe it, nor do I think they will go safe all of them unless he has a good number of trusty Indians. Cant you take advantage of Colonel Schuyler's Regt: as a Convoy, and if Gen. Shirley has not given him orders to this purpose or discretionary, if there be a good Understanding between you as I hope there is, he'll step a little out of the way on so important an Occasion. I think however you should have at least 150 or 200 Regulars along with you. I suppose it wont alarm the Delawares & Shawanese. At all Events, if I could get no other Guard, I would endeavour to prevail on a number of the most active young Fellows in the Militia to go with me, & if I could get them on no other Terms would make them an allowance & charge it to the General account we must loose no advantage for the sake of saving a little Expence, nor should the Publick without a Compliment risque your Life.

Pt Merid: I have been to Council since the Morning, which was called to determine what should be done with the French Neutrals¹ that were destined for their Post but drove off the

¹ His Excellency communicated a Letter from Governor Lawrence (of Nova Scotia) dated the 11th. August last sent by a Vessel with about 30 Families of the Setlers in Nova Scotia, taken at the reduction of that part of the Province, inhabited by the People commonly called Neutral French, acquainting his Excellency that the result of the Council called on that occasion, was that these people should be dispersed among the several

Coast to St Chr^s. and now arrived here. If the People themselves will submit, the Method proposed, is to put the Boys out apprentices to Trades, the Girls to Service, and the Men and Women to be dispersed on long Island, Staten Island & Westchester, but I cannot see how the latter will be provided for — unless they will take up with working for their Subsistence in the Country, in the Farming way. But if they prove refractory & will not part with their children, or consent to labour for themselves, I dont know what method will be fall'n on. We should I think do what we can to incorporate them among us. Virg^a. on the contrary I am told have applyed £500 to carry theirs to London. If so, tis a very absurd Measure, & may oblige the People of England to fall on some Method to get rid of them. They audaciously & unanimously refused the Oath of Allegiance Mr. Lawrence writes: or they might have cont'd in Possession of their Lands: The Reasons he gives in his Letter shews the Measure of dispersing them among the Colonies was well judg'd. Sir Charles told me he had settled the Matter with Gen^l. Shirley about a Guard to attend you to Onondaga & that he said he would order

Provinces, and that in Consequence thereof, he had sent a Vessel with that Number of Families to this Province.

His Excellency acquainted the Council, that the Vessel had been driven off the Coast in the Winter, and had put into St. Christophers, where some of the people found means to make their Escape to the French Islands, there being at present only 21 Families, and desired the opinion of the Council as to the disposition of them.

The Council advised his Excellency to recommend it to the Mayor and Magistrates of the City, to endeavour to put out the Children to such Persons as are willing to take them, not doubting but the most of them may be thus disposed of, and that they send proper Persons on Board the Vessel to consult the disposition of the People, and to represent the advantages such a Provision for their Children will be attended with, by learning them Trades and useful Employments, by which they will be enabled to support themselves and Families comfortably in this Country. And that in the meantime Provision be made for their subsistence. All which his Excellency recommended to the Mayor Mr. Holland, and desired him to acquaint the Magistrates therewith and consult them upon it.— Council Minutes, 25:118.

100 Men — I understand you applied for no more — you know best but I dont think it enough; as you should run no risque. Sir Charles thinks the Indians have had Presents so lately, that they rec'd ¹ little or nothing of other Presents than Arms & ammunition. I hinted to him that whatever you used of the public Presents you might replace & told him you wanted many things w^{ch} you could not procure time enough as there were no such things to be had. He answered the arms &c he had given an order for were to be given to the Indians in his Name, meaning too I suppose as a Present from the King: I dont know whether I ever thought to mention it to you, but it has been made an Objection by Gen Shirley I heard, that your Proceedings were in your own Name and not in the Kings. I take it when the Indians speak to the Governor, or to any Person having publick authority on solemn Occasion, they mean the English in general, or his Majesty — but that tis usual for them only to address themselves to the Person they are treating with. Nor can you avoid speaking to them in your own Name. However some general & apt Expressions interspersed in the Conference may obviate the Objection, if there be any thing in it. You follow the usual course of Proceedings. I intended to give this Letter to Mr. Claas who is going from hence in a Sloop with Monocantha ² & about 24 other Ind^s. he brought with him from Phil^a. but the Sloop wont sail till to Morrow & Earhart goes off he tells me in half an Hour: what will you have done with the Warrant for £69.7.0 — & £72:9.0 for your Gen^l. Pay & Ballance of amount of your Onondaga Journey? I shall receive the Money due on Myndert Wemps Order & give you Credit for it.— unless Wemp has since paid you, for the order you've endorsed to me is above a year old. You ought to take care of your self, for if his Majesty would make me a Baronet & give me £5000 I'd leave as many Subjects as I could procure for him from my best Endeavours. I believe you've not been an Oeconomist, you therefore ought to be saving

¹ So in copy; should be "need" probably.

² Monocatootha, alias Scarooyadi, Delaware Half King. See W. M. Beauchamp, *History of the New York Iroquois*, p. 301.

now, that you may have a little left to apply in Peace & Ease when all this Hurley Burly is at an End. My Compliments to Cap^t. Wraxall I'll take Care of your two Letters. There's no opp^y either here Phil^a. or Boston except the Pacquet: Adieu & believe me to be with great ¹ Dr Sr. your most affectionate h^{ble} Serv^t.

GW BANYAR

I am told they are 2000 strong at Oswego.

FROM WILLIAM KELLY

A. L. S.²

New York May 2^d. 1756

S^R

The Consideration of your having a Multiplicity of Business on your hands together with the Repeated alarms you've for a Considerable time past had of the French's design's on us the Oposition of which (and I may say without Flattery the Defence of our Country) lay Intirely with you are the reasons I Introduce to Apologize for not Embracing a more Early Opportunity to Congratulate you on the Dignity His Majesty has been pleas'd to Conferr on you which hope you'l now Accept in the most hearty manner as well on that Occasion as the Sense the English Nation have Shew'n the World they have of your Service's which is very grating to a Tribe we have here but times are so Alter'd that such of them as used in time past to Froth at the Mouth with Detractive Clamour dare not now Utter their filthy Venom lest they might have a prompter to make their Exit.—And Relying on your good nature to Excuse the Familiar manner in which I address you (also my not waiting on you the morning you left Town which was owing to my being unwell) proceed to give you an acco^t. of what may be new to you

Cap^t. Troy arriv'd in Philadelphia last thursday in 7 Weeks from Ireland & bro^t. Gen^l. Webb's Baggage and several Officer's

¹ Omission in the copy.

² Original destroyed by fire.

passenger's who say Gen^l. Webb and the Troop's under his Command were Embark'd 'ere Troy sail'd, so that they may be Expected Hourly, but am under some Uneasiness for their Safety as we have had a most Violent Gale of Wind last night right on Shore. Gen^l. Shirley Sails for Albany this day if the Wind abates. The Copartnership between Mr. Colden¹ & I Expired yesterday, as he does not Intend to follow Trade having a Number of Offices to attend, wou'd deem it an Extraordinary favour to have the Execution of your Commands here in the same manner as when in partnership with the Gent^lⁿ. in which you depend on the Strictest punctuality Have sold the last of your Deer skins the other day at 4 & there yet Remains a small matter of the Beaver which is so bad that can't Sell it at any price. its thought an Embargo will be laid tomorrow but it's too late for most of the Trading people here and in Philad^a. have for a Considerable time been a crowding provision to 'Statia² from whence it goes Imediately (some in the same Bottom's that carry it from hence) among our Enemies³ I am Sr.

Your most Obed^t. h^{ble} Serv^t.

WILLIAM KELLY

S^R. WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronet

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

The foregoing is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 77 by a letter of the 4th from Goldsbrow Banyar, at New York, to Johnson on the passage of war bills. It was destroyed by fire.

¹ Alexander Colden.

² St Eustatia or St Eustatius, West Indies.

³ The embargo act was approved by the governor on May 4th. On December 29th the governor, under instructions from the king, ordered that an embargo should be laid "upon all ships and Vessels clearing out with Provisions, from any Port or Place within His Government, except those which shall be employed in carrying Provisions to any other of His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations."—Council Minutes, 25:152.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹*New York 5th May 1756*

DEAR SIR

I wrote you yesterday. I have a moments time to talk to you before the Express goes. Major General Webbs coach & some of his servants are I hear arrived this Forenoon here, the Coach I saw, but I must tell what I hear for I've not had time to examine anything.

It's said alway's² and the Highland Regiment were Embarked at Cork, that three were to embark at Portsmouth and in all 8 were coming. It's said Webb was sent for back after he was proceeding to embark on board the Pacquet. An Embargo that was to affect England & Ireland both was to take place the 25 March and a greater likelihood than ever of a Warr. Webbs baggage Came to Philadelphia where tis said a Vessel is arrived from Ireland in 4 or 5 weeks. Orders go by this Express to Col: Glen³ & Renselaer⁴ directed to you to detach from the Militia as many Men as will make up Albany Quota 211 Men. They are not sent to you as tis imagined you can take no Care concerning that Business as you must be very near setting off for Onondaga.

An Embargo is laid here by Act of Assembly for 21 days only, this is absolute, and if Pensilvania & Jersey agree it is to continue 3 months.

An Act is also passed this day to fix the Rates of Carriage as follows — Between Albany & Schen^y 9 s per day, from thence Westward 10 s. per day Between Fort Edward & Fort W^m. Henry 12 s. per diem and 9 s. is allowed for 30 miles from the Place the Waggons are hired til they are employed, & so on their return home.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Otway's.

³ Lieutenant Colonel Jacob Glen.

⁴ Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Van Rensselaer.

Tell Captain Wraxall I'm much obliged for his Letter, & will answer it as soon as I can, at present he must accept of what I write you as to himself.

I have had a damnd deal of Trouble about 9 Indians Men Women & Children whom Mr. Peters has consigned to me: They are a part of Monacatutha's Company he left behind the Woman is dead they waited for, & he desires I will procure them a Passage to Albany. I shall draw on him for the Expence I am put to, and if he protests the Bill shall charge his Majesty's Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the Northern Division with it. You nor Mr. Wraxall dont say a word about the £5000 or some will have it £6000, the latter £1000 being given out of his Majesty's privy Purse, but I know no authority for the £1000 I sent you the Vote of Parl^t. for the £5000. Mr. Peters writes He does not hear any Parties are gone out against the Indians since the Proclamation, nor does he believe any thing will occur on the side of Pensilv^a. to hinder a Peace, and that the Gov^r. has sent Indian Messengers to Wyoming to notify to the Delawares there what he has rec^d. from Sr. Charles Hardy of the Return of the deputies of the six Nations and their Success with the delawares at Otseningo. God bless you. I am Sr.

your affectionate h^{ble} serv^t.

GW BANYAR

Mr. Peters writes the Duke had recommended a Military Man to Mr. Penn as Governor and some say Webb is actually appointed.

INDORSED: May 5th 1756.

Banyars Letter.

FROM WILLIAM KELLY

A. L. S.¹*N. York May 5th. 1756*S^r

Have Receiv'd your Esteem'd fav^r. of the 26th. Ult^o. on the 3^d. Curr^t. directed to my late partner & Self which Shew'd him and had his directions to undertake Compleating your Orders which has Engag'd my whole time and am affraid it wont be in my power to Effect as there are many out of the way things in it. There's not an Indian Blanket in Town to be had and those that are Expected are Engaged to our Province Commissaries the Women's Yarn Stockings with Clocks, the Indian arm's & Knives 3-4 Garlix & Tinsell to Lace the Hatts cannot be had I have Ransack'd every Store in Town and have in two days time procured every thing else order'd and in Order to Compleat the whole if possible have this day dispatch'd my Clerk to Phil^a. where hope to procure the Deficiency Excepting the Gun's & Knives which despair getting. Have heard Mr. Ogden at Newark Expects a Vessell from Bristol hourly have Sent a person over to him in Order to Engage the Quantity of Blankets but am affraid they're preengaged to that Province & you may rest assured that if it's among the possibles your Order's Shall be Complied with but must observe to you that most European Goods are considerably risen as much owing to the Great demand the Army make as the Freight Insur^a. &c^a being much higher than formerly. I don't think you'll be able to get arm's to suit you on the Continent as there are none Imported for Sale that may be depended on the same sort as you deem so bad Sold this Spring for 25 p^r C^t. more then cost here and as to the 100 Muskets you've now by you believe will fetch a profit therefore wou'd advise you to Order them down to me directly and also to send a Sample of Indian Arm's & Knives home & Import them yourself or please to give me the Necessary directions & I will Import them as no doubt there will be more wanting next

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Spring I am now Lading a Brigg for Bristol which will sail in about 3 Weeks if you've any Commands that way please favour me with them I have partly Engaged an Ordinary wide Silver Lace to put on the Hatts (in Case the Tinsell cant be had) which won't come much dearer than old Lace. Gen^l. Webb's Baggage & Some Officers from Europe arrived last night pr Stage from Philad^a. the yard wide Garlix are making into Ruff<led> Shirts the Wine Bottling &c^a. I am (much hurried)

Sr.

Your most obed^t. h^{ble}

Serv^t.

WILLIAM KELLY

SR. WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart.

RICHARD PETERS TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

Contemporary Copy

<Philadelphia the 6th May 1756>

SIR

In the Absence of the Governor who went last Week to the Frontier County,¹ the Council opened your Excellency's Letter of the 2^d instant inclosing one of the 24th April from Sir William Johnson to you, finding great Faults with Governor Morris for issuing his Proclamation declaring the Delawares (tho' they were then Carrying on a most destructive and Ruinous War against this Province) Enemies to his Majesty, and offering a Reward for their Scalps. And on Considering this Letter, together with what your Excellency is pleased to say, Viz^t. "that if there should appear any thing to Governor Morris which upon reconsideration of this matter may make it adviseable for him to suspend Hostilities against the Indians effected by his Declaration until the Result of Sir William Johnson's meeting the Indians at

¹ "Counties" in the letter printed in *Correspondence of William Shirley*, ed. Lincoln, 2:438.

Onondaga is known, you did not doubt but he would think it a prudent Measure" and on likewise considering the several Letters from Sir Charles Hardy Copies of some of which are inclosed the Council have unanimously resolved to advise the Governor to publish a Cessation of Hostilities against the Susquehannah Delawares until further Orders, and have directed me to acquaint you with their having done so; and that they would likewise have advised a general Cessation of Hostilities against the Delaware Tribe, was it not a matter of Fact that those from Ohio have but lately appear'd in large Parties on our Western Frontiers & killed & carried away great Numbers of our Inhabitants over Susquehannah, & by the last Post from Annapolis it is expressly wrote by the Postmaster there; that those <Delaware Indians were then murdering within 12 miles of Winchester> having destroyed the Settlements on <Conocochege¹ & the Con>nalloways² & other places as well in our Pro<vince as in> Maryland and Virginia, & in Several Depositions made by Prisoners who from time to time made their Escape from those Delawares, it is positively declared that they were meditating a Grand Attack on this and the Inhabitants of the Neighbouring Provinces and that we may expect them as soon as their Indian Corn is planted to the number of 2000 Indians of different Nations all Embodied against us by the influence of the French & those Delawares.

The Council therefore cannot think it prudent the Province being in such Circumstances that those Indians should be included within the Cessation of Hostilities. As Sir William Johnson has before this time received from Gov^r. Morris one of the printed Proclamations & his Letter accompanying it, sent by Mr. Clause who had the Charge of conducting Scarroyady & his Company to Fort Johnson & likewise has heard the Accounts those Indians would give of the most miserable Condition of the

¹ Conococheague, Washington county, Md.

² Conaways, Anne Arundel county, Md.

back Counties, it is hoped that he sees the Measure in another Light than he did when he wrote his Letter & will have Considered the reasons for it, as set forth by the Governor in that Letter, a Copy of which is here inclosed, whereby it will appear that when that Declaration was published the Enemy Indians were greatly increased in their Numbers and appeared in formidable Bodies upon every fresh Descent that the Frontier Counties were near being abandoned — that the Six Nations Indians to a Man, who were Parties & present at the late Treaty thought the measure absolutely necessary,— advised us & assured us it would be agreeable to the Six Nations, & every one promised to engage some of the Warriors to assist us against <them, that the Formality of a Declaration tho' necessary to animate> our own People <should make no manner of difference> as to the Enemy's Delawares, who <had been for> some time before, & then were Butchering the Kings <Subjects> like Beasts appointed for Slaughter or driving them <before> them bound with Cords & Naked into a Shamefull Captivity.

The Council say when these matters come to be Considered, together with the Restrictions in the Proclamation & the distinctions between those in open War & those who have not join'd them, no one can with Justice Censure the Declaration but impute the fault where it does in truth lye, at the Door of the Delawares; for they & they only, & not the Shawonese are included in the Declaration — The Council desire further to inform your Excellency that the Gov^r. by their advice has sent four Indians two of which are of the Six Nations & two friendly Delawares to Wyomdick ¹ the principal place of Residence of the Susquehannah Delawares to notify to them & the Neighbouring Indians the transactions between the Deputies of the Six Nations and the Chiefs & Warriors of those Susquehannah Indians at Otsaningo, ² as Communicated to him by Sir Charles Hardy from

¹ So in original, for Wyoming.

² Robert Hunter Morris to Susquehannah Indians, April 26, 1756. *q. v.*

Sr. William Johnson & that these Messengers had further in Charge to assure those Indians that if the Treaty took full effect, & their future Actions Corresponded to the Professions made to the Deputies of the Six Nations, they should find a ready Disposition in this Government to return to their old Friendship, on their giving up the English Prisoners and acknowledging Faults.

The Council requests of your Excellency that you would be pleased to make Sir W^m. Johnson acquainted with all those matters, that they may be properly mentioned at the Treaty at Onondago & if this be done they apprehend no ill Consequences can attend the Declaration of War, <but that it will appear that this Government tho' reduced to the necessity of making it, &> offering Rewards to <such as would go out against> such a destructive Enemy, has paid a <due regard to> the Mediation of the Six Nations & will still do it, <nor do> the Council think that Sir William Johnson should blame but rather justify this step, especially as during the time of the meeting at Otsaningo the Delawares from the Ohio where doing their greatest Mischief both in this & the Neighbouring Provinces & do still vow not to leave an Englishman alive which Conduct should stirr up those very Susquehannah Indians in Conjunction with the Six Nations to assist us in bringing them to Terms of Peace & to Consider this Declaration as made against these implacable & obstinate Enemies & not against any that now are, or hereafter may be disposed to hearken to the Six Nations in our favour.

The Council doubts not but the Governor will Concurr with them in those Sentiments & supply what is wanting of his Authority in this Letter, but in the mean time, till he can signify this himself, as he is at a Distance, they thought it their Duty to lay those matters before your Excellency and request they may be Communicated to Sir William Johnson with all possible dispatch, to take off any Prejudices that may arise either in his Mind or with the Indians on account of this Declaration & least any Accident should have befallen M^r Clause & the Letters sent by him miscarry, they further desire you will furnish Sir William John-

son with one of the printed Proclamations & the Copy of the Gov^{rs}. Letter to him of the 24th April. I am

Your Excellency's

Most obedient Humble Servant

Richard Peters by

Order of the Council

A true Copy Examined by —

His Excellency General Shirley

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

A. L. S.¹

Albany May 8th. 1756

DEAR SIR

On Thursday Evening Gen^l. Shirley arrived here about 9 of the Clock without any Ceremony — not a gun fired he has dismissed his Guard only two Senterys. the new Generals Coach and Servants are arrived at New York. Mr. Visher tells there is no money come up — and others say, the Gen^l. Desired his accounts and he would pay them, there is a good dail of Difference between giving Visher the money, or the Gen^l. to pay the accounts himself. Visher at present complains a good deal — if it is true, no money is come up — all the fat will be in the fire. the following piece of News is related by Col. Shote and he affirms may be told as matter of Fact. The French Fleet of 14 Men of War and transports with six thousand land forces on board bound for Canada, was attacked by the English Fleet, and Eleven of the French men of War were taken, with only the loss of one 10 Gun Ship of the English. this news came to piscataway in a Ship of England in 5 weeks. he was told many circumstances relating to the fight but as his memory is bad and a very cautious man, he does not give the Circumstantial account —

At last Col Marshal has received his orders to march I wish

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

they could as easy have filled his Company — his Company they say consists of 33 of which Eleven is Effective. they say the New Gen^l. will keep his residence in the fort — I am extreemly glad to hear M^r Broadstreet and the provisions are like to get to Oswego. I am with Compliments to Sir Peter, Sir y^r most faithfull humble Serv^t.

WILLIAM CORRYE

FROM JOHN WATTS

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 77, by a letter of the 10th from John Watts, at New York, on remittances. Destroyed by fire.

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:80–82, is printed a letter, of May 10th, from Sir Charles Hardy to the lords of trade, discussing Johnson's Indian proceedings.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY¹

Extract of a Letter from Sir William Johnson
to General Shirley dated 10th. May 1756.

I wish the Companies of Rangers, your Excellency mentions, were ready to go upon Duty, when I would hope to be able to join Indians with them; and unless this Method takes place, I despair of the Communication to Oswego being secur'd.

A true Copy,

W^m: ALEXANDER Secy.

INDORSED: Extract of Sir William
Johnson's Letter to
General Shirley dated
10th May 1756.
— in Maj: Gen: Shirley's
of June 23^d. 1756.

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.46, London, England. Inclosed in a letter of June 23d from Shirley to Henry Fox.

FROM JOHN OGILVIE

A letter of the 14th from John Ogilvie, at Albany, on page 77 of the Johnson Calendar, relating to Indian affairs, disputes of officers, news concerning Washington and the French (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:301-2; Q, 4:195), and one of the 16th to William Kelly, p. 78, ordering goods for personal use, were destroyed by fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.¹*New York 18 May 1756*

DEAR SIR

You have the News Papers inclosed: Since which we have an account of the arrival at Philadelphia of a Vessel from London in 5 Weeks and 3 or 4 days They bring no account of any Engagement between the two Fleets, so that what is mentioned in the Papers on that Head is hardly to be credited. Mr. Myers from Philadelphia arrived this forenoon. By him we hear that Lord Lowden & Major Gen^l. Webb were actually embarked with 4000 Troops said to be bound for this Place. The Brest Squadron was sailed; and Boscowen with a Fleet on a secret Expedition — It was thought the Brest Squadron were designed to attack Minorca, but I dare say it was intended for North America. Wherever they are gone, I suppose Boscowen is designed to follow them if our Intelligence will lead him into their Tract.

I have yet heard nothing of the Pacquet. Miller was saild & put 'bout & thought to come out as well as Lord Lowden & the Fleet with the same wind that brought out this Londoner, arrived at Phil^a. I have not heard what Convoy was to come with the Troops. I hear the dutch wont send over their 6000 Troops and that the King of Sardinia has declared he will take part with England. Mr. Baker and another Gent whose name I have forgot, and who I am told was agent for Nova Scotia, were

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

appointed to supply the Army here with Money and Provisions, & that the latter is coming over. But the News is not digested yet and you must wait till the Saturdays Post I suppose before the particulars can be sent you — Col. Fitch is arrived here and goes away for Albany toMorrow or next day.

Pray how is it as to the Onondaga Mutiny ¹? I have a hint (only) that tis put off; I should be glad to have the Particulars. This News is not spoken off here. And I heard it by chance. It's being known might awaken the Fears of our Frontier Settlers, who seem to be very quiet except in Virga. & they I imagine are attack'd by the French & their Indians — I dont mean the Shawenese or delawares — It's almost time for me to expect a few lines from you. I've had the pleasure to be introduced to a Relation of yours here; he's been much indisposed since he arrived from Boston but is now gaining Strength daily. You'll see him soon I suppose ² — I am

D. Sr.

your affectionate

h^{ble} Serv^t.

GW BANYAR

The Embargo was taken off. My Comp^{ts}. to Mr. Wraxall
The assembly is adjourned to meet on the 1st June

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR ET AL

The foregoing is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 78, by a letter of the 24th to Johnson from Banyar, touching English opinion of Americans, movements of regulars, Indian affairs, finances etc.; and a letter of the same date from William Alexander at Albany, to Johnson, inclosing an account of small arms. They were destroyed by fire.

¹ "Meeting" was written unquestionably.

² Guy Johnson probably. He arrived in Boston from Ireland in 1756.

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

A. L. S.¹*Albany May 26th. 1756*

DEAR SIR

Your favor of the 23 rec'd, shall observe your orders relating to the Sherif &c^a.

I sent a letter to Mr Alex^r. who informed me he was sending you an Express last Monday Morning, which letter informed you of 200 skipple or bushels of Indian Corn being Come up for your use which I would have sent you, had I bags — Every thing else is gone up with Carefull Waggoners and a Charge given about the wine in bottles the Invoice is inclosed now you have every thing you writ for, except the waistcoat which is not done and the Cask of Buck shot from Mr Liman he can not procure it he says, first he said he would get it. which I would have sent up in one day but the Sloops could not unload them as other peoples goods interfared. Last night I chanced to meet Mr. Adams; inter nos, he seemed fine and Mellow. what he has been about I know not. The news from Lake George, that Cap^t. Rogers has taken a french prisoner and kill'd an Indian, the prisoner tells that 250 french and Indians were marched to intercept the provisions, 600 men at tenind^a ²; 400 at the Narrows ³, one hund: at Crown point.

Cap^t. Rogers with 275 went out to attack the 250 Gen^l. Winslow ⁴ seems to insist that a diversion must be made at Oswego, or he cant march to Crown point. he has ordered that no Suttler or woman upon any pretence shall go with the army — the Gen^l seems an Elderly man, if his powers were measured by his legs he would be but of Slender ability — they say Gen^l. Shirley expects daily up 28000 pounds that is a pretty sum —

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Ticonderoga.

³ Two Rocks, Lake Champlain.

⁴ John Winslow, of Marshfield, Mass.

Mr. Alex^r. will send you the account of the Arms — Patrick McGee informs me there are fat Cattle to be had at Goshen, tomorrow, I shall endeavour to send one load of Indian Corn to Schenectady with borrowed bags, for fear your in want. Yesterday the trial was between Vanderpool and Mr Emerson. It went in favour of Vanderpool I cant conceive how they can pack a Jury, to bring every thing against Strangers, without even the Colour of Justice.¹ however the Lawyer on the other side of the Question did his business so ill, that he could not get Judgment on the Verdict — therefore the Court offered him a New trial or to argue the matter in Law Next Court, so the Case stands at present — the Boston Commissioners have no patience about it, if any thing could make them swear, they would swear at the Albany Jurys, they vow no Strangers Cause ought to be tried in Albany unless half the Jury was foreigners — they spake without reserve of the Injustice done Mr Emerson. they say they payed their Quota to you, and a great deal to this purpose. indeed I think it best that you pay Vanderpool and all them Waggoners as soon as possible, that Emerson may have no more trouble about it — sure I am, if I had not baffled them, so, as to prevent their taking out Execution against Emerson, the would all be on him in Eight days. Vanderpools charge is for 39 days. 17£. 11s—0d. the settled price from Albany to Schinectady is ten Shills and Six pence allowed by all the Commissarys — I have paid fifteen load at 10s—6d pr Load and shall £ s

one more tomorrow for the Indian Corn 10s 6d. 8—8—0
Paid Flansburrow for packing and boxing the Guns. 0—3—0

£8—11—0

I believe the Indian Corn is 200 bushells I want only bags to send it up forthwith. the Waggoners had lists of their

¹ Cf. Corry to Johnson, July 3, 1756, and May 2, 1761.

loads— This Family are very much yours, My Compliments to Sir Peter, I wish his Gout was a 1000 mile off, and he as sound as a trout. Believe me to be Sir yours to Command

WILLIAM CORRYE

after Mr. Garritse told me all your Goods were gone he found the following particulars five Casks near barrel size, a Cask of Sugar and a small box which Just made a load and I have sent them off — which makes one load

	£	s	d
More	0	10	6
from below	8	11	0
	£9	1	6

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 78, by a letter of May 28th from William Eyre, at Schenectady, to Johnson on the Onondaga congress, warlike preparations at Albany, pay of gunners, and, in postscript, a letter from Dublin and an expected visit from Warren Johnson. It was destroyed by fire.

TO THE MAGISTRATES OF FISHKILLS

Copy

Fort Johnson 28. May 1756

GENTLEMEN

The River Indians whose families are at Fish Kilns, have had a Meeting with the Mohawk Indians, and it is agreed that they Shall remove and live with the Mohawks; Two of those Indians are going down to fetch up their Women Children &c^a: and I send an Interpreter with them; as the Removal of these Indian and their incorporation with the Mohawks is an Affair that will be I hope of happy Consequence towards the public Tranquility and this Juncture I must desire you will give all Assistance in

your Power to the Indians who are going down, and take Care that no just Cause of Dissatisfaction be given to them

I am

Gentlemen

your verry h^{ble} Serv^t

W: J:

To the Magistrates of
the Precinct of Fish Kilns.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:86–91, is a letter, of May 28th, from Johnson to the lords of trade, showing the state of the frontiers to southward, criticising Governor Morris's Indian policy and explaining the decline of British credit with the Six Nations. It is followed, p. 91–116, by a Journal of Johnson's Indian transactions from March 5th to May 26th. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:717–726, is also printed the above letter of May 28th to the lords of trade.

FROM HUGH WALLACE

A. L. S.¹

New York 29th May 1756

DEAR SIR

I had in course your obliging Letter 24th April, & am greatly obliged to you for your good Oppinion, & verry kind Intentions towards me, which I hope I shall always study to deserve. Believe me, I shall always be proud to serve you But I would no more desire, a thing which was not consistent, with your well known Integrity to give, then I would hang myself.

Mr. De Peyster says he is glad he had it in his power to furnish you with Pistolls; they cost him £3. 10 St. & I paid him £7 — for them, which you may order me here, as you please, or lett me have the pleasure of receiving it from you at our next meeting.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

This will be handed you by y^r Kinsman,¹ who has been sick here for some time. I have often had the pleasure of seeing him, & offerd him my best Services It gives me pleasure to think of his being with you, for I take him to be a sensible modest worthy Young Gentleman & one who will yet make a figure, I am sure he has my best wishes.

All your Friends & Countrymen here, remember you with much regard Indeed some seem to prize drinking y^r. Health, more than Health itself to them. I believe drinking y^r. Health, now you are absent, makes as may *Happy*, as y^r. Good Company used to do when present & that did not use to be a few

I sincerely wish you Health & Happiness, may you continue to be a Favourite of y^r. Prince, & an Honour to your Country, is the frequent & most Earnest Wish of

Dear Sir

Your most obed h^{bl} Serv^t.

HUGH WALLACE

Colo. Dunbar² who sailed in the Packett y^e. 14th Inst. desired his Complim^{ts}. to you in an Especiall Manner.

Give me leave to recommend to y^r usuall Friendship, Cap^t Rob^t Ross of y^e 48 Regim^t. if you should see him your way, he is my perticular Friend, you'll find him a good Man, which is enought for you

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.³

Albany May 30th. 1756

SIR.

I received your favour of the 30th.⁴ the Charge of any Rewards you may give to the Indians for delivering up our

¹ Guy Johnson doubtless.

² Thomas Dunbar, colonel of the 48th foot; superseded in November 1755.

³ In Newbery Library, Chicago, Ill.

⁴ "If" should evidently be supplied.

Deserters should hereafter appear improper in your accounts, you shall be repaid from the Contingencies. The objection you mention against the Garrison of Fort Hunter being proper to go into the Mohawk Fort, is what may as well be made against any of his Majesty's Troops, I make no doubt the officer there will do his Duty: and if you please to recollect they are troops yourself desired but a few days ago for that service. I wish you had provided Garrison's of hired men for this purposes as at your request I impowered you to do in my letter of the 10th. April; making such Detachments at present from the 44th. or 48th. Regiments very much distresses his Majesty's, service, however in case of any Alarm, I will order the Garrison at Fort Hunter to be reinforced, and I can't think the Indians there have the least reason to apprehend any dangor, while they are Covered from the Enemy by 30 men at Fort Johnson within two miles of them, a Party at the Connajoharise Castle. 150 Men at the Connajoharie Falls, besides the Troops at Herkerman's & several hundereds at Schenectady, any of whom may come to their Releif, before they can possibly be obliged to surrender.

If any deficiency of Provisions should happen to you at Onondago, Oroego¹ is the only place it can be supplied from, & on your application to the Commanding officer there you will be supplied, but in that case I must desire you will send the Empty Battoes you will have with you, to Oswego for that purpose.

I am

Sir.

Your most Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronet

¹ Should be Oswego.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.¹*Albany, June 2^d. 1756.*

SIR

Sir Charles Hardy hath inform'd me of the Subject of his inclos'd Letter to you, & desires me to write to you my thoughts upon it.

My thoughts are these: Sir Charles's proposal for the Indians of the six Nations to meet him at Albany, or Schenectada, so soon as he mentions in his Letter, seems to me to interfere with their general Meeting at Onondago, lately concluded on between you & them; as also your proceeding from thence to Oswego; and I believe if Sir Charles had known, that the former of these points was determin'd upon in the manner you have lately acquainted me it is, he would not have entertained Thoughts of meeting the Indians before their going to Onondago.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, Baronet.

FROM WILLIAM CORRY ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 78, by one, of June 5th, from William Corry, at Albany, to Johnson, dealing with a disturbance in the provost jail, Indian depredations and a panic near Fort William Henry; one, of the 5th, from James Furnis, at Albany, inclosing a letter from Mr Watts; and one, of the 5th, from Dr Richard Shuckburgh, at New York, brought by Guy Johnson, giving news. They were destroyed by fire.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

FROM JASPER FARMER

A. L. S.¹*New York June 7th. 1756*S^R

Captⁿ. Miller being arriv^d: from London, by whom I have a Compleet asortment of Europen Goods; among which I have Swivel guns, wth. Iron Shott, Musket ball, Swan Shott, about 200 fine Light Armes wth. Cases to them, They are Such a Sort only Something Super^r: to a ferile² Gen^l Shirley b^t: for y^e use of y^e Indians, They are of a Small Musket bore, neat & Well finish^d. wth Good Locks & neat brass work, If you shul want any of y^e above or any other Sort of Goods I have you May be Shure of haveing them at y^e very loest rates I inclose an Advertisement by which y^e find Miller If³ for London directly he will Sail in Four weaks from The date, If you have any Comm^{ds} there or back they shal be duly Executed by him who will have pleshure in rendering you any Services, In y^e begining of apr^l it was very uncertain when Lord Lowden wold leave England, it was Ginerly thought that y^e Man of War In which y^e Coll^s Webb & Abercromb, & Maj^r Mudeford was Coming in wold Sail y^e 20th of apr^l. y^e money for y^e Expedition is to come wth that Ship wth Som Store Ships under her Convoy, we have a Large y^t. of Irish beef & buter Soon Expected here, y^e attention of England y^e begining of Apr^l was for y^e preservation of port Mohone against which place The french had Sent a very Strong Armiment from Tulung, Several admerels wth Grates part of y^e British Navy was Gon Theither, which is all that is Mataer^l: by y^e Late Ship from London.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Ferile in copy; changed to ferule in proof; fusile, for fusil, is undoubtedly the original.

³ Should evidently be "is" or "of" for "off."

I conclud wth harty wishes for y^r ¹, & helth & am Sr. wth hie Esteam y^r most obd^t Humb^e. Serv^t:

JASPR: FARMER

New York, June 7th. 1756

For London directly

The Brigantine Maria, Thomas Miller Master: Will sail with all expedition, having very good accommodations for passengers. For freight or passage apply to *Jasper Farmer*, or said master.

FROM JOHN OGILVIE

The foregoing letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 78, by one, of the 8th, by John Ogilvie, at Albany, to Johnson about packet for lords of trade, money with Mr Furnis, and arrival of ship from London. It was destroyed by fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.²

New York 8 June 1756.

DEAR SIR

Yesterday morning the Pacquet arrived after a Passage of 8 weeks lacking a day from Falmouth, so you may imagine the Advices are old. She has brought only the February and March Mails, but there were some Letters sent down afterwards. Colonel Webb and some other officers among the rest Major Rutherford are come. Colonel Webb is to take the Command immediately, but as I understand from the Major is not to be a Major General till Lord Lowden's Arrival, when he is only to take rank as such in America. The Fleet were to sail about the time this Vessel sailed. General Abercrombie comes with the Fleet, on board whereof are only 2 Regiments, the Highland and another each of 500 Men, but to be recruited in Scotland to

¹ "Tuessel" in copy; "success" was probably written.

² Original destroyed by fire.

1000 each, for which they were not to wait. Lord Lowden was to embark in about 10 days after the Fleet, in a Cutter, a 20 Gun Ship: and this is done its said, that the French might be left to their Conjectures only, as to the Destination of the Fleet and Transports. I hear Col. Webb has brought your Patent creating you a Bar^t. the Fees of which are paid by the King: It's said too he has a Commission appointing you Colonel of the Six Indian Nations &c and another Commⁿ. appointing you sole Superintendent of Indian Affairs, with Colonels Pay for the former and £600 Sterling p^r Annum for the latter. Whether he has the two last Commissions, I cannot affirm with certainty, there seems no doubt he has the first, and I believe if he has not the others, the appointm^{ts}. are fix'd. In a Letter I wrote M^r. Secr^y. Clarke¹ of the 28 Nov^r. I took the Liberty to mention pretty fully the Hardships you were under, what appointment I had been informed was intended you, that you had it not, unless in Braddock's Commission, and the difficulties you met with by Gen Shirley's interfering in Indian Affairs. This Letter he writes me, he shew'd to Lord Halifax. the first part of which be sure makes me think myself a Man of prodigious Consequence, but tis the way of your great Folks to give, what they think, the most pleasing turn to every thing they say. It is in these Words:

“ Lord Halifax is pleased his Sentiments and yours agree, and says every thing is now settled as you would wish them. Lord Louden is made Gov^r. of Virginia, and Gen^l. & Comm^dr. in chief of all the Forces on the Continent, Major Gen^l. Abercrombie the next in Command; and Sir William Johnson Colonel of the Six Nations of Indians with Colonels Pay, and sole agent for Indian Affairs with a Salary of £600 Sterling, a year: which with £5000 voted him by Parliament for his past Services, must convince every one amongst you (excepting M^r. Shirley) how highly his Conduct is approved on this side the Water, and how deservedly his merit is contested both by Ministry and Parliament.”

¹ George Clarke, secretary of the New York provincial council, but resident in England.

Mr. Clarke's Letter is dated at Bath the 24 Feb^y. but I suppose you will have more certain accounts of this matter than any I can give you, perhaps in the 3 Letters I inclose you, accompanied with one for Captain Wraxall, who Major Rutherford tells me has got his Company. It's said Both Captain Eyre's and Mr. Wraxall get their Promotions in consideration of their Services in the Campaign with you. Rutherford got Ogilvie put among the List of Captains given in by Lord Loudon for the Batalions, but he and many others were struck out to make room for German officers on whose Account the Duke set many clever Fellows aside & many of them who had been in foreign Service. There are a few Lieut: & Ensigns Comm^s left for Lord Loudon to give, just to preserve the Appearance of an opening for Americans. Mr. Rutherford says he found himself and the other Field officers nominated by Gen Shirley broke. Mr. Cunningham who came over with Sir Danvers Osborn an Officer for Halifax, is come hither one of L^d. Loudon's Aid de Camps. I hear nothing about Invasions, attacking of Minorca, or the Destination of Fleets. You will see the news in the Papers. I have not seen the Governor since Webb's arrival, if I learn any thing further this Morning I shall add it. I am Dear Sir

your affectionate &

obed^t. humble Servant

GW BANYAR

Pray Give my Compliments & Congratulations to Capt. Wraxall

P. S. I have saw the Gov^r. what I write is true, except perhaps as to the Colonels Pay & Salary too, which I did not ask. One Mr. Atkins¹ is appointed agent for the Southern Division with the like Salary. Mr. Pownell I hear comes with Lord Lowden as Secretary *primier* but perhaps he is since nominated for the Massachusetts Government, I cant tell how it is.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart^t.

¹ Edmund Atkin.

FROM JOHN OGILVIE

The foregoing letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 78, by a letter, of June 9th to Johnson from John Ogilvie, at Albany, about letters received and sent, and money paid to John Glen. It was destroyed by fire.

EXPENSES OF ONONDAGA MEETING

D. S.¹*Burnets field 10th. June 1756*

An Account of Horsehire to carry provisions to Onondaga for the use of the Hon^{ble} Sir William Johnson Bart, and Cap^t. Pattens Company of Grenadiers

John Jost Herkemer with 2 horses for 25 days @			
12/ for man, and horses p ^r day	£15	..	..
Johannes Rasbach with 2 horses	15	..	..
Andrew Weber with one Horse for 25 days at			
6/ p ^r day	7	10	..
George Wens with one Horse for Do	7	10	..
Adam Bers with 2 horses for 25 days	15	..	..
John Christman one horse for Do	7	10	..
John Conrad Frank with 2 horses for Do	15	..	..
Do. for a horse which Cap ^t . Patten took to			
Oswego with Saddle and Bridle, and never			
returned horse nor furniture	6	10	..
John Baker with a horse for 24 days @ 6	7	4	..
John Christman had an horse killed w th . carrying			
Adam Bers had two horses rendered unfit for			
any service, so that he could not use them for 2			
Months, for which three horses they charge . .	8	..	..
Andrew Klebsaddle with 2 horses for 7 days . .	4	4	..
Do. to drive the Oxen with four men, besides			
himself	6	8	..
Andrew Weber for pasturage of the Oxen	..	8	..
Stephanus Frank for 11, loaves of bread	..	11	..
Dietrick Stale lost a Bell which he sent with the			
Oxen	..	8	6

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

John Rasbach lost an horse with a Saddle and

Bridle which carried Cap^t. Pattin's baggage.. 6

carried forward£122 3 6

Brought over£122 3 6

Fort Johnson December 1756

I do Certify that the within named persons have been with me to Onondaga last Summer, and carried also Cap^t. Patton's baggage and provisions for the Grenadier Company which he commanded, and which was by Gen^l. Shirley's order

W. J.

FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

The foregoing paper is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 79, by a letter of June 10th to Johnson from William Williams, at Fort Williams, about Onondagas who have come to guard bateaux and escort Sir William, also about Canadian Indians. It was destroyed by fire.

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

A. L. S.¹

Albany, June 11th. 1756

SIR

This is to let you know that Just now an Express arrived from New York, which informs us of the arrival of Major Gen^l. Web — we have an account in Every body's mouth, that his Majesty has settled on you Six hundred a year Ster: Capt Raxel is made Captain in the Room of Cap^t. Rutherford Cap^t. Rutherford a Major. he is arrived with Gen^l. Web: I spoke with the Express, he confirms the above account — Gen^l. Louden daily Expected — two prisoners taken this day on the other side of the River within a Mile of Albany.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

For God Sake dont expose your self among the Indians, rather Send for them, and let them wait upon you — let me intrate you when you receive this letter Stop, under pretence of great affairs, and return home, where you can have an oportunity of intertaining the Indians, and conversing with them with safety and pleasure, to what you can in their Castle at such a distance and hazard. You see I am earnest to comply with your desire of my often writing to you — I am now going to inquire for a post, if I can get y^e oportunity of one, shall send off this letter by him. if not I shall make bold to send you an Express — My Compliments and Joy to Sir Peter — all here, I mean this family Salute you — I am Sir

Yours to Command

WILLIAM CORRY

FROM JOHN OGILVIE

The foregoing letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 79, by a letter of June 12th from John Ogilvie, at Albany, conveying congratulations to Johnson. It was destroyed by fire.

ROBERT H. MORRIS TO OGAGHRADARISHA

Contemporary Copy

Philadelphia, June 14, 1756

[] the Camp at Armstrongs []
Ogaghraderisha

Colonel Clapham has communicated to me by a sp[ecial?] Messenger the several matters you have deliver'd to him, as [well] from Sir William Johnson, as from our good Friends and Allies [the] Six Nations; and I detained the Express no longer than was necessary to lay them before the wise Men, whose advice I ask in all matters relating to Government, for their consideration, and they concur with me in this Answer which I am now going to make to you

Brother

I return you my hearty thanks for your kind Speeches. They give me much satisfaction bespeaking great care and sincere Affection for us on the part of Scarroyade and our other Friends at Fort Johnson, and on the North Branch of Susquehannah and I am particularly oblig'd to you for undertaking this hazardous Journey.

A String

Brother

You tell me that Sir William Johnson finding it too difficult for him to take the necessary care of the remote Indians who live on the Waters of the Susquehannah, has recommended it to the Person who has the Command of the Provincial Forces now on their March to Shamokin to take care of them. This is perfectly agreeable to me. I have already given him my Orders to Afford every kind of Protection in his Power to our Friendly Indians and I now repeat the same directions to him, in Confirmation thereof I give this String.

A String

[] have appointed you to represent them
[] ratify and confirm whatever you Transact with
this Government on their behalf. As you have so full a Power
from them I must desire you to proceed to this City, the place
where all my wise men and Councillors assemble together and
transact there the Publick Business. I have several matters now
under my consideration of great Importance to our Allies the
Indians which I cannot communicate but in Council, by this Belt
therefore I invite you to come to this City and afford me your
assistance and advice in Council.

A Belt

Brother

I thank the Indians for the ready and voluntary consent they have by you given to our Building a Fort at Shamokin. you must

be sensible that this measure did not Originally proceed from me, but was first moved by the six Nations who lived among us and on their renewing their Request after having been present in the great Council lately held at Sir William Johnsons I consented to it. I promis'd it shou'd be done and the Forces under Colonel Clapham are now going to carry the Promise I made to the six Nations when here into Execution¹

Brother

I am desir'd to Build another Fort fourteen Miles above Wiomink at a place called Adjonquay I have agreed to this.
[]

I have given notice of your safe Arrival [] Sr. William Johnson and Scarroyady at Fort Johnson. I have sent Messengers to Diahogo to give them information of it least they shou'd be uneasy at your Absence, and I mention this that you may be the more willing to come to this City, where I shall be glad to take you by the Hand and place you among my Councillors.

Brother

You may return to Susquehannah from this City by a nigh and Convenient Road without any Danger and I shall take care that you be well rewarded for your Trouble

A String.

Brother

As I expect to see you here, you must not look on this as a compleat Answer, you must be sensible from what I have said that your Message is extreamly agreeable to Us and will be complied wth. but I leave several things to be mention'd to you in a Personal Conference.

¹ See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:114.

Given under my Hand and the Lesser Seal of the Province
at Philad^a. the 14th. June anno Dom: 1756

Seal of the
Province.

ROBT. H: MORRIS

INDORSED: A Copy of Governor Morris's
Answer to what was delivered by
the Indian Ogaghradariha to
Col^o. Clapham at the Camp at
Armstrong's — dat. 14th June 1756.

FROM RICHARD SMITH

*A. L. S.*¹

Albany June y^e 19. 1756

S^R

As I had y^e honour to Serve Under you last campaign expecting to meet you here or to have found you at Fort Johnson but understanding you was gone amongst y^e Six Nations. Wait here your return With a designe of tending my Service in case you enter into Action. I have y^e pleasure to inform you that a letter I wrote from y^e camp two days after y^e battle was y^e first acct. of it that arrived in England & it had y^e honour to be laid before y^e house of Commons. it gives me infinite pleasure now to reflect that as when I wrote I had no Sinester Views. nor no other on only doing Justice to meritt where ever I Saw it so pray excuse my vanity if I tell you. I am not a little proud of having y^e honour of having made known yours my dear friend Cap^t. Wraxels & Cap^t. Eyre; to no less than y^e Commons of great Brittain. now S^r. William as I have a wife & five children which urges me to to the request beg you will reward that litle Share of meritt I may Claim in having endeavoured to acquitt myself in

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

dilligently discharging y^e trust reposed in me during y^e Camp of y^e Campeign. which is that you will give me a Leautennacy in your Rignement. & as I told you on your acceptance of me before so if you honour me with your acceptance of me again. So you may be assured my Actions shall allways speak for me & my grattitude & fidelity Continue to y^e death, as I have not y^e honour to be intamately acquainted with you yet S^r. William I am know Stranger to your worth and must beg of you to beleave I would not have presumd to have made such a request as I have but should have relied on my worthy frend Cap^t. Wraxel to have done it for me, but alas with agony I write it by what I here I fear he is no more. my friends had wrote to him on my behalf I am well assured he would have served me & hope for his sake you will.

Remain With all due Respect

Your most devoted Humble Serv^t.

RICH^d. SMITH

P S their is intelligence from fort Ed^wd, the enemy have a large party employd in Cutting a road & was advanced Within ten miles of y^e fort Gen^l Winslow detached 400 men to reinforce y^e garrison & convoy a hundred Waggon on y^e 17th of this Instant beg my Service may be acceptable to Cap^t. Duller¹ & Mr. Adams² & Mr. Clous.

SIR CHARLES HARDY TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:117, is a letter, of June 19th from Sir Charles Hardy to the lords of trade, mentioning Johnson's commission.

FROM AN ONEIDA ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 79 by intelligence, dated June 20th, given by an Oneida of French designs concerning the Oswego falls, Oneida lake, German Flats and Sir William Johnson (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:727-28; Q, 2:423). It was destroyed by fire.

¹ Captain Butler probably.

² Robert Adams, deputy secretary of Indian affairs.

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

A. L. S.¹*Albany June 21st: 1756*

SIR

Mr Van Epse informed me all the 110 Kettles and also the 5 or 6 at Mr^s. Millers he sent to your house which I was very glad of. I have taken a Method now to prevent your looseing any goods between Albany and Schinectady. I have sent a load of blankets and Six bullet moulds to Mr. Van Epse, and expect more goods by the first Sloop which shall send up as soon as they arrive.

As to news I inclose you my last papers, yesterday we had a certain account that Sixteen vessells chiefly transports are arrived with troops from England at New York, Gen^l. Loudon not yet arrived, the present plan is all for Crown point, the present Musters is Six thousand provincials 3 thousand more expected: the two Regiments Web and Burton 2000, the English from England when all arrive 3000 several Companys of Artiliry & the independants, when Compleat are expected to amount to 14000 men in the whole yourself and Indians are also mentioned for that Service. it is said in Common conversation, and also in the papers that the English Gen^{ls} are to consult with you upon affairs a letter is gone to Col. Wouldbe to order him to his company he was within an Inch of being discarded. two Merc^{ts}. Ships are arrived from England. they say the bill of costs is settled at last, the amount is 168 thousand Ster.

our Sloops are impressed to carry up the English troops to Albany. Major Mathews I am convinced can clear himself with hon^r. how ever he is turned out — he cant get a hearing untill you come down. A Certain Gentleⁿ. has done all in his power to bind him with Cobwebs and make the world believe they were

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

bell Ropes. it may turn upon their own heads — God Speed
you in all things is the wish of your Affect. humble Serv^t.

WILLIAM CORRY

I heard Sir peter¹ was very Ill at the Flats.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df. S.*²

*Camp at Onondaga Lake*³ June 27th. 1756

SIR

I have the honour of y^{rs}. of the 23^d. Inst.⁴

I have not had an answer from the Six Nations as yet, so that I cannot with any degree of certainty say what I can do as with regard to the Number of 100 Men y^r Excell^{cy} desires I would engage for the Crown Point Expedition. they tell me I am to have their answer to Morrow I hope it will be favourable notwithstanding the many Ill impressions our backwardness & Losses has made on their Minds. as well as the Indefatigable overtures of the French, & their Indians, who have had great opertunity this time past of Corrupting them. I am sorry to See there is little hopes of any of the Twighties, or other Western Indians coming to Oswego as Your Excellency & myself expected. I cannot therefore see the necessity of my going there.

This Moment two Indians whom I sent from Oneida 11 Days ago to call the Shawanese, & Delawares returned, & tell me that they parted this Morning with 26 Shawanese & Delawares, whom I expect will be here this night So that to Morrow I hope to hear their Resolutions. I shall use all means in my power to bring this Meeting to as Happy an Issue as possible, and if turns out well hope to bring down a Number of Warriors with Me,

¹ Peter Wraxall, secretary for Indian affairs.

² Original destroyed by fire.

³ Johnson left Fort Johnson June 3d, reached Oneida the 13th, Onondaga the 18th, set out to return July 3d and reached home the 7th.

⁴ Not found.

Whom I must Cloath well &c^a. w^{ch} I cannot well do so soon unless I had that present at least the Coats, Shirts, Hatts & ammunition w^h. Sr. Charles Hardy has. they never will be so acceptable, or of such Service as at my return. When I propose (if they go with me) to stick at no Expen^ce to engage them heartily as the rest would then fall in the Sooner.

I am

y^r. Excell^{cys}.

Most Obed^t.

Most Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

I find by all the Nations here who ever resorted the Carrying place. that Cap^t. Williams¹ is a very disagreeable person to them they earnestly desire, & insist upon it that he be removed, or they will never go on the Scout, or any other Service there.

I am sorry I am under a necessity of taking so disagreeable a task in hand, as to write against any Gentleman, but as I plainly see & find he has greatly disoblighd all the Oneidas, Tuscaroras & Onondagas greatly to the prejudice of the Service, I think it my Duty to take notice of it to your Excellency. his Interpreter is as much found fault with.

GENR^l. SHIRLEY

FROM JOHN BRADSTREET ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 79 by a letter, of the 28th, from John Bradstreet to Johnson about provisions forwarded and journey to Oswego, with mention of Captains Vanbarger and Patton and Mr Pitcher; and a letter, of the 28th, from William Corry, at Albany, to Johnson, about arrival of men-of-war in the St Lawrence, Fort Duquesne, arrival of English generals, billeting redcoats in Albany and sending supplies. They were destroyed by fire.

¹ Captain William Williams, of Sir William Pepperrell's regiment. He was stationed at the Oneida Carrying Place.

TO PETER WRAXALL¹*July the 2^d. 1756*

Extract from Sir William Johnson's Letter to Peter Wraxall Secretary for Indian Affairs, bearing date from his Camp in the Woods — between Onondago and Tuscarora, Friday Evening July the 2^d. 1756.²

Last Night I finished all matters with the Six Nations to my great Satisfaction, I have a number of the Shawenese and Delawares with me whom I intend to take down to my House, and settle all Affairs there with them, as I could not here. The meeting being broke up before they all arriv'd, the King of the Delawares came here after the meeting was broke up, he accompany's me also, they will be about 30 in Company of both Nations; the King of the Delawares tells me, that he on receiving a Message sent him by me from Oneida sent immediately to the Delawares on the Ohio, to come to the Onondago meeting, he thinks there will come above 100 of them, which is a good Sign, I doubt not settling that unhappy Affair as soon as I get home. I hope you are quite recover'd and that I shall have the pleasure of meeting you at my House — Tuesday or Wednesday next at furthest.

A true Extract Ex^d. byLAMB^T. MOORE D^y Secrey.

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

A. L. S.³*Albany July 3^d. 1756*

SIR

Upon the application of some of our poor distressed people I trouble you with this Letter. Last week I was sent for to the Court House by the Mayor and Justices. they shewed me the Gov^{rs} Letter ordering them to call all suspected persons for selling

¹ In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Manuscripts — Indian Affairs, II, 1754-56.

² Johnson set out on the 3d on his return from Onondaga.— *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:150.

³ Original destroyed by fire.

rum to the Indians before them, they made the people sware from the Commencement of the act, which was a year wanting ten days before they were summoned; they picked out all the Strangers from the one end of Albany to the other with much discretion and Judgt. but the persons that might be really suspected of the right breed they passed over. among the number sumoned Alex^r. McCay confessed that 8 or 10 months ago when he lived at New York and traded between York and Albany in his Sloop 12 or 14 miles below Albany he sold an Indian a pint of Rum for 3 brooms and declared he knew nothing of the act. William Taylor said about a month before an Indian Captain in his march to Lake George from some part of New England Quartered his Indians for the time he staid in Albany at his house, and he supply'd them in reason according to his orders as Soldiers.— a Dutch man one Cooper, lately come to Albany said he knew nothing of the act and some days before sold an Indian a pint of Sider. a Jew said by Mr. Alexanders orders he sold his servant six Gall^s. of Rum which he was told was for the use of the Indians I observed to the Mayor and Justices these sellings did not come within the intent and Meaning of the act, and if they thought proper, we would acquaint the Gov^r. with them and know his pleasure, to which all agreed —

In 4 or 5 days after unknown to the Justices and as I hear by the advice of his good Friend the Sheriff, and I suppose to put a penny in his pocket, he fixed upon McCay and Mr. Taylor and granted his warrant to put each of them in Goal if they did not each pay the fine of 50£ and the Costs, which Mr. Sheriff chenged¹ to 28S. each as for money leveyed upon an Execution Mr. McCay paid down the money and Costs, and the Mayor sent Taylor to Goal, after he had lain there 24 hours with great difficulty I got him out, he giving a bond with two Sufficient Sureties for the Money. how the Mayor sliped the dutchmans neck out of the halter I cant tell, for he confessed before us all,

¹ In copy, "chenged"; in proof, "changed"; should be "charged" apparently.

he had sold a pint of Sider to an Indian, and refused to swear — as every Sale here seems quite foreign to the true Sence and Meaning of the act — their request is, that you would please to represent their case to the Gov^r. and if his Excellency shall think them guilty, they submit, if Innocent, they hope his excellency will relieve them of the fine and Costs, as the costs was as unjust as the fine — The last year when the Indians was in Albany two Dutch weomen were committed for selling rum to the Indians and refusing to swear, yet they let them out, without paying any fine — Last week one Huse an Irish man was called before the mayor for something, and Huse told the Mayor he could clear himself by 20 Evidences yes said the Mayor, Irish Evidences.

The King and Duke¹ resent highly that the troops were oblig[ed] to lay in tents last November — Sir John St Clare vows he will acquaint his Majesty with the treatment he met with from the Mayor, when he applyed to have the last troops billeted.— I beg you will get this set turned out, I feel the poor Strangers oppressions and wish to relieve them. I have a much better set ready to put in their places. It is said that Albany is to be fortified, which would be good news to you and I.

States Morris when he was last in England waited on the Duke,¹ the Duke asked him if he had the returns of the army he said not, have you brought the returns of the two new raised Regiments, he said not, what do you come for said the Duke, and left him abruptly — the next day States rec^d an order to repair to his Regiment.

Pray take notice of the Complaint of these poor people. And let the Gov^r. order me to summon and examine all persons suspected of Selling rum to the Indians, and I'll put the saddle on the right horse.

I am Sir your most

humble Serv^t.

WILLIAM CORRY

¹ The Duke of Newcastle.

FROM JOHN ABEEL ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar (See p. 79–80) by a letter of July 6th from John Abeel, at Fort Williams, to Johnson, asking payment of Senecas employed by Abeel; a list, sent to Johnson, of supplies, dated the 10th, from Cornel's Jno. Cuyler, assistant commissary, at Schenectady; conferences at Onondaga and Fort Johnson between Johnson and the Indians, July 1–12 (printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:146–60). These were destroyed by fire.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY¹*Fort Johnson 12th. July 1756*

SIR

Last Night I concluded all Matters with the King or Head of the Shawanese, & with the King or head of the Delaware Indians, Who live on the Susquehannah the Former at Way-oming, the latter at Jiaogo.² The Shawanese Chief declares that none of his people were concerned in any of the Hostilities committed on the Frontiers of the Southern Provinces that they have Strictly adhered to their Treatys & Engagements with the English and are determined to Continue Acting upon the same principles —

The Delaware chief has confessed that some of his people deluded by the French & the Indians in their Interest did join with them in their Late Hostilities & Depredations on the Frontiers of the said Governments. That they have seen their Error, laid down the Ax, and do repent of their past Misconduct, will for the future Govern themselves by the Example of their uncles the six Nations, & in Conjunction with them will take up & use the Hatchet against the French & all their Adherents. This he ratified in the most publick & Solemn manner before the Deputy's of the Six Nations who were present & Engaged himself that all the English prisoners who had fallen to the Share of his people Should be forthwith Delivered up.—

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.17, p. 539, London, England.

² Tiaogo.

I presented the Warr Belt which was Accepted by both these Chiefs who sung the Warr Song (which is a Sacred Engagement amongst the Indians) with singular Zeal and Warmth —

I think proper to Lose no Time in acquainting your Excellency with the Happy Issue of this Important Affair In which I have been successfull beyond my Expectations —

The Delaware Chief who was the principal Object has also promised to use his utmost Endeavours to withdraw those of his Nation whom the French have Seduced to go & live in the Neighbourhood of Fort Du Quesne.

As I See by the publick prints the Governour of New Jersey hath published a Declaration of War against the Delaware Indians, which as he Could not but know they were Expected at the Onondago meeting with the Hopes of Bringing Matters to an Accomadation was In my Humble Oppinion a premature & very unadvised Measure, and the Governour of Pensilvania he must have known, had upon this Account Suspended any Hostilities in Consequence of his Declaration of War Some time ago published — If from these or any other of the Collonys any Hostilities shou'd be first Committed against these said Indians, The Six Nations will in a Body resent it, And all Our Indian Affairs be put into a fatall Confusion, which I beleive no body will be able to Compose. I Hope therefore your Excellency will judge it proper to Communicate with the utmost Dispatch, The General Account which I have Given you to the Southern Governments, I would have Sent one to Sir Charles Hardy in Order that he might have Transmitted it to the Neighbouring Governments to the Southward but as that would have taken up more Time I thought it best to referr it to your Exeñcy who I hope will if your Sentiments Correspond with mine, Inforce them with your own Opinion.

I shall Only Add that their Appears Every kind of Moral Evidence to beleive the uprightness and Sincerity of the promises and Engagements of these Chiefs in Behalf of their People And that as soon as a Copy of the particular proceedings of this Con-

gress can be Got ready I shall Transmit one to Sir Charles Hardy in Order to forward to the Southern Governments.

I hope Some day this week to have the honour of waiting upon you and am most respectfully

Sir

Your Excellencys most

Obedient Humble Serv^t.

W^m. Johnson

To

His Excellency

Major General Abercromby

Copy

James Abercrombie

Major General —

A True Copy Examin'd by

Benj^a. Barons

Secretary

Pro^v. N. Hamp

Copy Ex^a. THEODORE ATKINSON Sec^y

INDORSED: Copy of a Letter from Sir
W^m. Johnson to Maj^r. Gen^l.
Abercrombie dated
Fort Johnson July 12th:
1756
in Gov^r. Wentworth's Letter
of July 19th: 1756

FROM JOHN BRADSTREET

A letter of the 13th to Johnson from John Bradstreet, at Albany, inclosing an account and asking payment to Captain Schuyler in the Johnson Calendar, p. 80, was destroyed by fire.

FROM JOHN ST CLAIR

A. L. S.¹*Albany July the 14th. 1756*

SIR,

As the provincial Forces have begun their March, and the 48 Regiment follow them to morrow, to take up the posts as they leave them, is the reason that all the Wagons in this part of the Country are employed. I am therefore under the necessity of begging the favour you will employ the Constables about you to collect all the Wagons in your Neighbourhood to rendezvous at Schenectady on Sunday the 18th. Inst. for the march of the 44th. Regt. & its artillery towards Oswego; I shall thankfully pay the Constables for their trouble in impressing the Carriages.

I shall be glad to see you soon at this place and to assure you with what regard and Esteem I am

Sir

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant

JOHN ST CLAIR DQMG

To SR. W^M JOHNSON Bar^t.

FROM ROBERT ROGERS

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 80, is found Captain Robert Rogers's journal, addressed to Johnson, of a scout to Lake Champlain, with an account of losses which he inflicted on the enemy, and the completion of the undertaking July 15. (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:285-87; Q, 4:184-85.) Destroyed by fire.

¹ In collection of Mr H. P. McCullough, North Bennington, Vt.

EXAMINATION OF MICHAEL GREENLEAF

D. S.

Fort William Henry, July 15th, 1756

Michael Greenleaf [] Says Never in the Service
 His Occupation a [] at Crown Point: Eight Days
 From Shamlee before [] A Greate Numbr of
 troop^s at Shamlee bound To Carrying [] with
 Aboute 500 Regulars A Generall Ariv^d From France his Name
 not known no Certain Intilligence at Canada of the English
 Coming Against Crown Point but they Expected it. Never
 Understood y^t y^e French were Desigend to Attact this Fort:
 Greate Stors of Proveshions at Shamlee: Aboute 50 battos at
 St: John bound to Crown Point Readey To Follow He Meet
 30 That Night before he was Taken. Greate Num^r in Canada
 Lettly Died with the Small Pox — 2 Indaien Cannos Set out
 the Day before he Did with 20 Indaiens & 3 French Men one
 a Lingester To Interupt our Convoys between Here & Albany
 — He was Preest to transport proveshions between St. Johns &
 Carreylong¹ & to Receive twelve Livers p^r Trip the Com-
 manding officer Gives 60 Livers for a Scalp & they Sell our
 Prisners for 50 Crowns — 2 Days Before he Left St Johns he
 heard there were 2 Rigments Arrived at Canada they understand
 at Canada we have a Number of Ships in y^e Mouth of St Law-
 rence River None of there forces to go any other way but to
 Crownpoint & Carrilong A Grate Prospect of a Good Crop this
 Year

¹ Carillon.

the other Seven Prisners have been Examined are not So
Intelligible But Give much y^e Same account

ROBERT ROGERS

INDORSED: A true Exammination
of the Prisners
N^o. 5

[]
Prisoner
July 15th []
taken at Fort []
& Hennery

FROM WILLIAM KELLY

A. L. S.¹

New York July 16th 1756

SIR

I am heartily glad it's in my Power to congratulate you on your safe Arrival from among those whom your Friends here thought wou'd have proved your Enemies & the Success I am inform'd you've had is no small Addition to the Pleasure the Account of your Safety afforded me: have not wrote you since I rece^d your esteem^d Fav^r. of the 3^d. Ult^o. with your Draft on Mr. Watts for £1200 which he paid on Sight & is carried to your Credit; It has not been in my Power to procure any more Tinsel than wou'd lace 30 Hats which have sent up p your Linguister Jacob^s. Camynt² (or some such Name) the rem^r. of the Hats still lie by me: have now sent you p a small Boat Hugh Dunlap, Mar^s. a Barrell of British Herrings mark'd W: J. No. 58 cost 60 s & Carta. 76 which have got out of a Vessell that came into the Hook who on hearing there was a Prohibition on the Exporta-

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Jacobus Clement probably.

tion of Provisions wou'd not enter but proceeded to the West Indies.

Lord Loudon is hourly expected, a Vessell being arrived that left Port & kept company with in the Nightingale (a heavy going 20 Gun Ship) as far as the Banks of Newfoundland & there parted with him in a Fog; & notwithstanding Mr. Kilby (who is in Partnership wth Aldⁿ. Baker in the Governm^t. Contract for supplying the Forces here) is arriv'd with several others who have seen & read Numbers of the English Declarations of War publish'd in London the 18th. May last¹ against the French yet one of them has not thro' their Means come to hand; but Lord Loudon has 'got them on board, whose Arrival is heartily wish'd for here: there are fresh Accounts that Mr. Pownall is made Gov^r of the Massachusetts Bay &c^a. & that a Captⁿ. in the Army² whose Name I forget, is made Dep^y. Gov^r. of Pennsylvania.

We are now fitting out several Privateers which will be ready to sail the Moment Comm^s. can be obtained: You've enclosed 3 Letters which came under Cover to me from Mr. Fran^s. Wade of Philadel^a. wth Directions to forward a Trunk which sent up yesterday by Captⁿ. Bentheysen: Since we've had a Certainty of a War with France I had a Mind to take the Liberty to propose to you to be concerned in a Privateer out of this Port which now take the Liberty to mention to you & request your Answer there being now in Port a very fine Bermuda's Cedar Snow, reckoned the best Sailer in the West Indies & has been a Privateer last War it's said of her that there's nothing swims on salt Water but what she can come up with. the Man who now has her here asks 1500 Guineas for her & in Case you've an Inclination to be concerned that Way, will engage no Person whatever shall be interested in her but Gentⁿ. of probity & Character & if this Proposal shou'd be disagreeable to you hope you'l

¹ The English declaration of war bore the date May 17, 1756. It was proclaimed in Albany July 27th. in New York City on the 31st. Council Minutes, 25:37.

² Captain William Denny.

excuse the Liberty taken to propose it by Sir with the utmost
Sincerity & Esteem

Your most Obed^t. H^{ble}. Serv^t.

WILLIAM KELLY

S^R. WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^t:

FROM WILLIAM KELLY

This letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 80 by an invoice of goods, dated July 18th, sent by William Kelly to Johnson. It was destroyed by fire.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:117-120, is printed Johnson's letter of July 17th, to the lords of trade on the Onondaga meeting with the Six Nations and his success with the Shawanese, Delawares and River Indians at Fort Johnson. A journal of Johnson's proceedings with Indians from June 3d to July 19th, at Oneida, Onondaga, Fort Johnson and Albany, is printed, p. 130-161. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:728-31, is printed the letter to the lords of trade.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY AND OTHERS

*Contemporary Copy*¹

Albany, July 17, 1756

As I have lately had a considerable Meeting at Onondaga & my own House, with the Indian of the Six Nations and several of their Allies & Dependants, I think it my Duty to acquaint this Council of War.

1. That if a Body of His Majesties Troops should act in conjunction with the Provincial Levies. now on their March towards Crown-point, I can take upon me to give this Council of War assurances, that a large Body of our Indians will heartily & readily join with & assist in such Operations with respect to the Crown Point Expedition as may be found most

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.47, London, England. Inclosed in Johnson to Fox, 1756, July 18th.

adviseable for the Success & honour of His Majesties Arms, and if His Majestys Service shall render it necessary,* I am ready to take upon me the Command of the said Indians and give my assistance to the utmost of My Abilities in every shape that will tend to promote or produce Success to the said Enterprize, and I further beg leave to declare my Opinion, that without such a Junction of His Majesty's Troops and Assistance of the Indians, I very much fear our Success that way this year.

2. That provided an Expedition against the Enemy from Oswego shall be judged practicable & adviseable this Season, and I should not be called upon to act in person towards Crown-point as mentioned in the foregoing Article, that I doubt not of being able to bring into the Feild, join & assist His Majestys Arms that way with a large Body of Indians whom I shall be ready to head as I have mentioned in the preceeding Article.

And I beg leave to give it as my Opinion, that if Circumstances should not admit of any considerable Attempt to be made against the Enemy this Year from Oswego and the present Obstinacy of the Provincials against being joined by His Majestys Troops & Indians continues, that it will be very prejudicial to His Majestys Indian Interest.

I was asked what number of Indians I could bring into the Feild this Campaign.

I replied that I spoke within compass when I said I could

* I am at this time in a very ill state of Health wch was known & visible to the Gentlemen present wch. was the reason of my putting in those Words.

depend on bringing Five hundred, provided there was the Appearance in our favour of a formidable & respectful Enterprize.

INDORSED: Copy of a Paper from
 Sr. William Johnson
 w^{ch}. he laid before & was
 read to a Council of
 War of w^{ch}. he was a
 Member, at Albany
 17. July 1756.—
 in Sr. W^m. Johnson's Letter of
 July 18th: 1756.

TO HENRY FOX

L. S.¹

Albany 18. July 1756

SIR,

I am honoured with your favour, bearing Date the 13. of March last,² acquainting me that the Parliament in Consequences of His Majestys gracious Recommendation has granted the Sum of £5000. as a Reward to me, for that Zeal, and those Endeavours, which my Duty to his Majesty, and my Country demanded from me.

And that as a farther Mark of His Majesty's Approbation and Confidence, He hath also been pleased to confer upon me, a Commission of Colonel, Agent, and sole Superintendant of the Affairs of the Six Nations their Allies and Dependants, which with your Letter and my Patent, I have received from Colonel Webb; Sir

I beg Leave to assure you, of my most dutiful, and gratefull Sensibilities of these distinguishing Marks of his Majestys Royal

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.47, London, England.

² Fox to Johnson, 1756, Mar. 13, is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:76-77.

Favour, Benevolence, and Confidence, and that I shall to the utmost of my Abilities at all Times, and on all Occasions exert myself to demonstrate by my Actions, the Truth and Sincerity of the Professions I have now made and that in the Disposition of what Monies I may receive to carry on His Majestys Indian Service, I shall act with the most prudent Oeconomy in my Power, keep as particular and exact Accounts, as the Nature of this Service will permit and in all Respects I will be the honest Man.

As I have had very lately a Great Meeting with the 6. Nations their Allies and Dependants at Onondaga, and a subsequent Treaty with the Shawanese and Delaware Indians at my House, in the Presence of the 6. Nation Delegates which ended but a few Days ago, it would be extreamly inconvenient to them, and bring a great Expence upon the Crown to call another Meeting immediately, and as we are in hourly Expectation of My Lord Loudouns Arrival, by whom you tell me a large Present will come for the Indians, when perhaps his Lordship may think it proper to assemble the Indians, before his Arrival it will I judge not be advisable to summon the Indians to a general Meeting, neither can I, nor could I timely provide these presents, which are indispensibly necessary on such Occasions.

As the sailing of this Packet, does not leave sufficient Time to send full Copies of my Proceedings at Onondaga, and at the subsequent Treaty at my House, I have by this Opportunity wrote to the Lords of Trade, and give them a summary Account of the capital points which have been negotiated at said Meeting and Treaty, to which I beg Leave to refer you, as I humbly conceive they are of great Consequence to his Majestys Service, and the Welfare, of his North American Dominions, at this interesting Conjunction.

I take the Liberty to inclose You Copy of a Paper I delivered yesterday at a Consultation which Major General Abercrombie call'd of several Field Officers, the Governour, and Lieu^t. Governour of this Province, and which Paper was read to them. If

the Circumstances of Affairs at Oswego should be found such: and which I fear they will be: as to render any considerable Attempts from thence for this year impracticable, and the Obstinacy of the Provincial Forces prevent a Junction of his Majestys Troops and Indians to cooperate towards Crownpoint: It will certainly very much disgust our Indians, who are pleasing themselves with seeing the French speedily humbled, and it will require some well concerted Measures to ward off the bad Consequences to his Majestys Indian Interest. This is one of the principal Reasons, which makes me impatient for the Honour of a Conversation with My Lord Loudoun.

I have the Honour to be with high Regard & Esteem

Sir

Your most Obedient, and
most humble Servant.

W^m. JOHNSON

To the right Honourable

HENRY FOX Esq^r.

&ra. &ra. &ra.

INDORSED: Albany July 18th. 1756.

Sir W^m. Johnson

R Sept^r. 29th.

TIMOTHY HORSEFIELD TO SIR CHARLES HARDY

Contemporary Copy

Bethlehem, July 21, 1756

<The following Information came from the Mouth of Jo. Peepy, an Indian now in Bethlehem a Delaware.>

That Tatteneskund,¹ the King as he calls himself, Tepisgaukunk and Betschihillewi, all of the Tribe <or Nation> of Delawares, had told him, that they had been 3 or 4 Weeks ago amongst the French at the Fort Niagara.

¹ Teedyuscung.

That the French made exceeding much of them, was very open and free with them. One of the Chief officers said striking on his Breast "I am a man, look at me (stretching out his Arm) my Arm is strong and I have thousands more like me." As to Provisions they had Bread midling Plenty, but their Meat was very scarce, and that little they had was quite spoil'd. They told them they expected a supply of Provisions every day.

Tatteneskund and Company requesting some Goods &c of them, the French officer answered "that he would willingly help them to every thing they wanted but at present Goods was scars with them. He said that they expected four large Ships from their Mother Country and if they would come again in two Months they should have everything plenty; all what their Eyes could see or their Hearts desire."

The French Captain said "I will now shew you what Works we have made to destroy our Enemies," taking them into a Cellar & from thence into a Place under Ground where was laid many Barrels of Gun Powder, the Indians described it going sometimes this Way and again another Way, something like a Worm Fence, and as far as I can learn, the Mine went at least half a <mile from the Fort, and that there were more such Places under Ground, with Barrels of Gun Powder near the Fort. Further, when the Indians came away they> talk'd one to another, and concluded it <lead that Way> that the English would come if they attack'd the fort.

That all round the Fort for the distance of <near a> $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile was quite clean, every thing being <clear'd out> of the Way, and that from the Fort was a fine Road leading to the Water (I suppose Lake Ontario) made exceeding regular and fine, every thing moved out of the Way, and the Indians thought under this Road was the Mine. They say the Fort is situate in a Fork, built very strong with a Ditch or Moat very deep round it, the Palisadoes are of large Trees, and within another Row of Palisadoes and then the Buildings.¹

¹ For plan, see Pouchot, *Mémoires sur la dernière Guerre de l'Amérique Septentrionale*.

When Tatteneskund and Company had been two or three days at Fort Niagara, the French Captain took a large Letter and laid it open before them, desiring they would give good Attention to what he was now going to say viz^t. This Letter is come from the King of England to <us,> and says so much "Let us the English and you the French consider what we are about. We the English live on one side and you the French live on the other side, and we have all the Indians in the midst of us. Let us join together at a certain time and squeeze the Indians all to Death at once, and then we will divide the Country betwixt us You can see plainly by this what People the English are, and what you are to expect from their Hands."

As near as I could learn the number of People at Niagara are 300 French and 200 English, 100 of the English are Prisoners kept very close, not having Liberty to speak to an Indian, and the other 100 are Indian Traders that used to frequent Allegheny or Ohio, have now joined the French, <enjoy their full Liberty and walk about as Gentlemen.

When these Indians ask'd for Powder and Lead they> were answered "We have none now to <spare, else we> would give you; the Powder you saw under <Ground, we cant> take it, it must be kept there for the use we <have told you of>." They gave Tatteneskund a fine dark brown <Cloth> Coat, very much laced with Gold, which he now <wears.>

The French chiefly depend on the Help of the Twightwigs and Tachquas,¹ who some time since were in the English Interest, but afterwards were persuaded to leave the English and join the French.

But when Taneskund was at Niagara, there <came> an Indian from the six Nations, desiring them by a large Belt, not to meddle in the War, neither to join the French nor the English, but if they cant help meddling, to wait at least four Months before they do any thing to assist the French.

¹ Choctaws.

The Twightwigs accepted this Belt, and sent word in answer that they would do so; signifying that they had been blind this Winter past, and this last summer till now, but they open now their Eyes, and will follow the Direction of the six Nations herein as children.

The beforementioned Nations live very near the Fort Niagara. But the beforementioned was not delivered them at Niagara but in a Place some Miles off, and the French know nothing of it.

INDORSED: Copy Indian Intelligence sint.

Express by Letter of 21st July 1756
from Timothy Horsefield at Bethlehem
(thro which the Indians passed who
gave it) to St. Charles Hardy, relative
to the state of the French Fort at
Niagara & a Message sent by the 6
Nations to the Twightwees &c^a.

TO JOHAN JOST PETRIE AND JOST HERKIMER

*Df.*¹

July 22, 1756

Mess^{rs}. PETRY & HARKEMAR ²

His Majestys service requires there should be A good Road opened by Land to Oswego; and the Shortest way possible thorough the Country of the Six Nations; this is therefore to desire you & both of you will imediately look out for a proper Persons to go & Mark it out, with the Assistance of the Oneida & Onondaga Indians. Whom I shall Order to Assist them. Send the Undertaker down to me Directly, and if you incline either, or Both of you to Undertake the Cutting. open & finishing Said Road to Oswego, which will be a very Considerable Piece of

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Johan Jost Herkimer, father of General Nicholas Herkimer, N. S. Benton, *A History of Herkimer County*, p. 151.

Work, I would have you come to me as soon as possible, and I will Agree with you about it. I would Advice you to it as it will be a very considerable thing.

I am.

Yr.

Humble Serv^t.

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

A. L. S.

New York July 23 [1756]

SIR

I had this Morning on my arival hear the pleasure of Receving your very obleging letter of the 18^h ¹ from Capt Wraxell and likewais an Account of the great Success you had and the very Matterial Sevice you have done at the late Meeting at Onondago

As the Express waits my finishing this letter and that I hope to have the pleasure of seing you in a very few days I beg leave to finish this by assuring you that I am with sineer Regrard.

Sir

Your most obedeent

humble Servant

LOUDOUN

FROM PETER WRAXALL

*A. L. S.*²

New York 23 July 1756.

MY DEAR SIR

I arrived here Yesterday Morn^g. ab^t. 7 oClock. This Morning ab^t. 4 oClock L^d. Loudoun came up (silently) in a Pilot Boat—he saw Company ab^t. 12. I went to make my Bow

¹ Not found.

² Original destroyed by fire.



LORD LOUDOUN

with the Multitude. he gave me a very particular & gracious reception & said aloud he must have a great deal of Talk with me. I staid till the Company mostly withdrew & then gave him your Letter w^{ch} he read equir'd with singular kindness after your Health. he told I had been recommended in the warmest manner to him by Mr. Fox,¹ Calcraft² &c. that he should be disposed to do me any Service in his Power; some more Speeches of Civility passt on both Sides. he dined at the Kings Arms with his own Family, Mr. Pownall³ (of whom by & by) Col. Young⁴ & Major Rutherford⁵ of the Royal Americans. Cap^t. Kennedy,⁶ Mr. Barons,⁷ Oliver Delancey & your hum Serv^t. I have Just left him, gone to see Mr. Barons, & as an Express is to go off this Evening I sit down to give you these few Lines. I am to wait on him between 7 & 8 this Evening. His Countenance is full of Candor, his. Eyes Sprightly & good Humoured, he is short, strong made & seems disposed & fit for Action, he lets himself down with great ease & affability. This is all I can as yet say of him or about him.

Mr. Pownall is I understand to have the Gov^t. of Boston on Mr. Shirley's departure. he (Mr. P) received me very civilly, but there is that something, w^{ch}. flows from the Heart, w^{ch}. I thought wanting, he asked very kindly after you. desired I would call on him for a little talk tomorrow Morning. he told me I must write a Letter to My Lord Halifax for he had appeared for me with regard to the Indep^t. Commission (credat Judaeus appella) however austier like I must write & thank him. I asked Pownall about Secretary p. for Ind. affairs. he said the Choice & Sallary would rest with you. what Pownall is with

¹ Henry Fox, Lord Holland, secretary of state.

² John Calcraft, politician, 1726–1772.

³ Thomas Pownall, governor of Massachusetts from 1757 to 1760.

⁴ Lieutenant Colonel John Young.

⁵ Major John Rutherford.

⁶ Captain Archibald Kennedy.

⁷ Benjamin Barons, secretary to Governor Sir Charles Hardy.

regard to L^d. Loudoun, Cuninghame told me this Morning he knew not, but said he soon woud know. My Lord has a Sec^{ry}. Pownall seems thoughtful & loaded with Cogitation. the Boston People (I hear) begin to Yelp against him. Mr. Shirley paid his Visit at one oClock. Oliver sticks close & runs about for him (L^d. Lou) when My Lord sets out is not known, the Man of War not come up, but he'll stay no longer than absolute necessity requires. Cuninghame is first Aid de Camp & if Pownall dont interfere will be chief man. he has but one Aid de Camp more as yet, I fancy Morris will come in. Staats Morris married in Eng. the Dutchess of Gordon (Dowager) & is to go home in the Packet, for a woman of Quality no great Fortune, but Interest & alliance will help him, if he's discreet. My L^d. told me he woud write to Gov^r. Belcher ab^t. Southern Ind^s. he has the Extract from y^r. Letter. By the next Opportunity I will give you My Conversation wth. L^d. Loudon and Mr. Pownall. I have now given you all that has past & all that I know within these few hours. I told Pownall the allowance you had made me for my past Services a<s> Sec^{ry}. w^{ch} he approved. My Bill on London is I find sold for time. I dont care to draw for the reasons I gave you, if without inconveniency you can send me an order upon Mr. Watts for £100 — more I'll be obliged to you — Paper I have ordered & will go to Mr. Ogilvie p^r first Sloope. Gorgets shall be put in hand.

I am much as when I left Albany I hope you are better — be punctual to the Doctors Orders & dont do every thing yourself —

I beseech you to be careful & believe me to be My Dear Sir
William

Y^{rs}. Affectionately

PETER WRAXALL

FROM ARENT STEVENS

A. L. S.¹*Schonectady 26th: July. 1756*

SIR

The Dronkert sons came here yesterday from Albany in Licquor, and as I found them a good deel out of temper, I stopt them at my house till they were Sober, and then asked them the reason, they say when they came to the carry place Captⁿ: Williams took their guns from them and talked of Confining them, when they asked the reason of such treatment, he said they were Senekas and all that Nation were french Men, they answer'd if so, why dont you make us Prisoners. Captⁿ. Williams then said, if I had all your Nation together here I would do it, the Indians then asked him who told him their Nation were French Men, he answered them he had a letter from Sir William Johnson which Informed him so, upon which they sent Onendaga Indians Expresses to Inform the Senekas what danger they had been In.

My little Child lies so very weak that we Expect her death every hour, otherwise I should have come up with these Indians, however if you have Occasion for me, shall Imediately come on receiving your Orders.

I am with the Utmost respect.

Sir

Your Most Obed^t. Hum^{ble}: Serv^t:

ARENT STEVENS

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.¹

[New York, July 26, 1756]

DEAR SIR

You & Captain Cuninghame will soon I hope meet each other, were I present I should not stand silent upon the occasion. I am deeply in with you both & therefore my Pen shall speak. I must have something to say between you, for I value you more than any two Men in this part of the World, and if I was put to it, I believe I should confess, more than any two Men on both sides the Atlantic. I can witness you are no Strangers to each others Merit (according to the Measure of my Judgment) do you testify my affection for you both.

I dont think this Letter a necessary one, and as I write it unasked I will aver tis the officiousness of Friendship & to show my own Importance. This I am sure is the Case, that if you love one another, I shall love you both the better for it, and if you dont I was never more mistaken in my Life.

I am heartily

My Dear Sir

Your Sincere Friend & faithful Serv^t.

PETER WRAXALL

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, Bar^t.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.¹*New York 26. July 1756*

DEAR SIR WILLIAM

Such a Scene of hurry, what can I say of it! My Lord is to set off this Morning or this day — he has been so crouded that till last night no getting near him — however he then sent for me. he opened with Military Matters about my Company. Next about Oswego on this Subject I mentioned the Article of Rum, its great Plenty — private Sale — prejudice both to Indian Service & Troops. Bradstreet reported to be concerned — Kings Battoes said to have been made use of last year for private Trade. William's at Carrying place, & him at Fort Hunter — Stuyvesant selling to Indians, w^{ch} you may remember from Buttlers Complaint. I told him that from you he would hear more at leisure & explicitly upon these Subjects. Pownal to whom I had mentioned these things before was for the most part then present & spoke of the abuses with warmth.—

Then Gov^r. Belcher's Proclamation came upon the Carpet, he read to Pownal & me what he had wrote to send away this Morning. it was polite but strong against any Warlike Measures against Shawanese or Delawares with whom you had treated praising Your Conduct in the Affair I had given him a general Acc^t. of y^r. Treaty.

Cuninghame has asked me if I choose to be near My Lord & be in his Family. I told him that I was by Friendship & I apprehended by my office engaged to you, that otherwise I would gladly embrace the Honour of being near My Lord, thanked him &c.

I shall take the Liberty (I speak so because recommendations are with me such tender points) to give Cuninghame a Line or two of Introduction to you. he is a Discreet worthy Young

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

Fellow, & I dare say you will be pleased with him, tho very lively he is a Man of Business & I think you You will be pleased when you talk with him on that Subject he will put My Lord in Mind of things, w^{ch} may escape him in the variety & load of affairs, but without Joke I hope you will show him that favour & Confidence, as my friend I believe you will, but to forward matters is my principal reason. I wish you would let him know (what without Flattery I esteem an honour) that I am your Friend how pleased shall I be (& I hope it will be the case) if he takes with you & that you will put your hand into the Cov^t. Chains with us. tis a Circumstance I wish for, it may help public affairs & promote our private Tranquility. You must not forget me to My Lord, & say what you honestly can in my favour. I long to hear how you are, if you dont write the¹ two or three Lines I shall think you unkind, or that you dont Give my Heart that Credit it deserves with you. (tis a Secret) but Cuninghame does not overlike P ——— l. I hint it — you will make a proper use of it.

I have talked with Magra, he says he will have nothing to do with me till Lord Loudon is gone & I am a Man of more Leisure I have wrote much I have much to write. The Packet goes to morrow. I feel my self not capable of much Application — I want some relaxation & to ride a Horse back &c. however if you ask me of My Lord for your self & want me, I wont stay a Moment, at all Events. if you can let me stay a little say how long if you can.

Your Proceedings to the Board of Trade cant go yet awhile, no Packet or Vessell going after this for some time. Your Acc^{ts}. of the first £5000 must be finished & a Copy for the Board to go with the Proceedings. I dont forget a Clerk for you. The Gorgets I have spoke ab^t. but not yet agreed for. I must Visit L^d. L. Pownal &c. I must finish some Letters — this Letter will show you my head is in a ferment, in two or three days I hope

¹ "the" in the copy; "me" was probably written.

to be cool. by a hint from P——I he seems to think as I do about D——ys¹ Politicks & hearts towards you.

I am truly Y^{rs}.

if you will

take care of y^r. Health

PETER WRAXALL

FROM ROBERT LEAKE ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 81, by a letter, of July 26th, from Robert Leake, commissary, at Albany, to Captain Abercromby, aide-de-camp, about guard to Oswego for cattle and drivers; a letter, of the 26th, from Cornel's Jno. Cuyler, at Schenectady, to Johnson on means of transporting supplies; and a letter, of the 26th, from William Kelly to Johnson on defective and also missing goods. They were destroyed by fire.

WILLIAM CLAPHAM TO DANIEL CLAUS¹

A. L. S.²

Camp at Shamokin 27th. July 1756

SIR

I return you thanks for your kind and agreeable Letter of the 15th. of May p^r. the old Man Ogaghradarisha to whom I have shewn all the Civility that lay in my Power & such as is due to his Merit and the Character you give him. I beg you'll give my kind respects to M^r. Mont³, Scaroyade & y^e other g⁴
B⁵ of the six Nations and Assure them of my sincere Friendship for them. I heartily congratulate them on their Arrival at the Mohawks Country, and return them many

¹ De Lanceys.

² Original destroyed by fire.

³ Montour. The last three letters bracketed in the copy.

⁴ "Great" was probably written. In the copy all the letters but the initial are bracketed.

⁵ "B" followed by a blank space in the copy. "Brethren" was written evidently.

thanks for their kind remembrance of me. I have Hopes from the great Experience of Sr. William Johnson in Indian Affairs that the Treaty at Oswego will be successful & terminate well for the English Interest. I wait with the Expectation of having the Pleasure to see some of my Bretheren here to give me the agreeable News, and I shall rejoice when I have the Opportunity of taking them by the Hands & bidding them a hearty Welcome to my Habitation. I have agreeable to their Request transmitted every thing the old Man related to me, to Governour Morris, who immediately sent for him to Philadelphia, to converse wth. him in Person; and three days ago he arrived here.— He is now on his Return to you & will relate to you every thing that pass'd at Philadelphia while he was with the Governour.—

On our March from Harris's Ferry¹ I erected a Fort at Armstrongs about thirty Miles from this place on the Susquehannah, and have been here a Fortnight in which time we have built Barracks sufficient to contain five hundred Men and inclosed ourselves with Pickets in form of a Semi-circle from the River, in order to be more secure till we have erected a strong Fort.— The Plans of the two Forts I now send you.

I wish you all the Success & Happiness you can desire. & am
— Sir

Your most humble Serv

WILL^M CLAPHAM

Ogaghradariha will deliver to my Brethren. Scaroyade &c. a Speech from me, with a String of Wampum to seal the same.

P. S: I have omitted to inclose the Plans of the Forts as I have sent them to Sir William Johnson.—

Mr. Lewis Montour is here with me, & begs you'll remember his Love to his Brother Mr. Andrew Montour.— I sent p Oga-ghradariha a small present of Tobacco to Scaroyade.— Jagrea is now with me also p their Desire

MR. DANIEL CLAUS

¹ Harrisburg, Pa.

FROM CORNELIUS JOHN CUYLER ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 81, by a letter, of July 27th, from Cornel's Jno. Cuyler, at Schenectady, to Johnson on supplies forwarded and receipt; a letter, of the 27th, from John B. Van Eps, at Schenectady, about supplies sent; and a letter, of the 27th, from William Kelly, in New York, mentioning articles sent by John Hogan and the sailing of five privateers. These letters were destroyed by fire.

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.¹

New York 27 July 1756.

DEAR SIR

I find Gorgets with the Kings Arms & your Cypher made of good Silver & to do Service will come higher than 26s apeice. the Silver Smith here says those at Albany if made for that price must be very base Metal. If you could send me down One for a Pattern & the price you would go to, it would I think be the best way & I cannot but imagine to have 'em made here must save money, as I have spoke to a very honest Workman.

As I wrote you fully yesterday I have nothing New to say, let me repeat to you to take care of your Health & be Obed^t. to Physical Orders. I apprehend the State of Affairs will not call you forth this Season & I hope you will be in perfect plight by the next. I have not been able to attend to my own Health as yet & am much as when I left you. however when you want & call me I come, I suppose my self to be & that I shall be under your Direction. if you can set a time when it will be necessary for me to come up I would be glad to know it afore hand, as some Preparation will be necessary and if a Tent will be necessary for me this Season that I may get it made tho unless I alter much for the better I shall not be fit for the Feild. I take the Liberty to inclose you a few Certificates, if Hare should be able to get

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

me any good Men. £4. for each to him delivered at my Quarters
& 8s. to Drink Kings Health · God bless you. I am my Dear
Sir

Your faithful
& affect^e. friend
& Servant

PETER WRAXALL

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

FROM SENECA ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 81–82, by a complaint of Senecas against Captain William Williams for accusing their nation of being in the French interest; dated Fort Johnson, July 28th. It was destroyed by fire. Also by a copy of the proceedings at Easton of Lieutenant Governor Robert Hunter Morris, William Logan, Richard Peters, Benjamin Chew and John Mifflin of the council, and conferences of the same, assisted by Joseph Fox, John Hughes and William Edmunds, commissioners, with Indian envoys, including Teedyuscung, the Delaware king (printed in *Penn. Arch.*, 2:722–30, and *Penn. Col. Rec.* 7:207–20). Dated, July 25–31. Not destroyed.

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.¹

New York, 31 July 1756.

DEAR SIR

I have made several Enquiries in relation to a Person to act as a Clerk or Deputy Secr^y.— The Person I mentioned to you that I had in my Eye, I have talked with, his present Salary & his future Prospects under Dr. Johnson² from the Colledge, greatly exceed what he would expect in our Way. besides his hand writing w^{ch}. is very indiff^t. would be an invincible Objection. I heard of another who in point of School learning would do, but upon Enquiry into his writing, I found he wrote a learned hand, alias a bad one & also very slow.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Dr Samuel Johnson, president of King's College.

This is not the most fertile Soil for needy, learned Men & I am afraid it will be difficult to answer our Wishes in all respects.

A Mr. Farril has been recommended to me by the Colledge Person above mentioned he was with me this Morning. he is a Man of about <3>7 or 38, born in the North of Ireland — writes a good hand & fit for Dispatch — tells me he understands Accounts & is skilled in the common parts of the Mathematics — understands Surveying — but is not a Schollar, he says he understands the English Language. has been a School master in the Jerseys, is now out of Employ & is very well inclined to make Trial. He is a Married Man but his Wife & Family are in Jersey where they are to stay. I told him I would write to you about him, that upon your Answer, I would let him know. That if you approved of his coming up upon Trial & the thing did not hit his Charges should be paid. I desired him if he was any ways inclined to Liquer to tell me for if so it would never do — he declares he is not — he seems a Man of Strength & capable of Fatigue; his Physogmony favourble and appears to be Modest. If he should meet with your Approbation, I told him I believed his Salary would be about £50 p Annum. (to be out of mine). I fear a Man of School Learning, a good writer & an Accomptant will be difficult to meet with. People of this Country in general I dont think will answer. One of this Province I should for many reasons be averse to. Mr. Farrel is quite a Stranger here & has no Provincial Connexions, a point with me much in his favour. if you would have him come up, I believe We must advance him 3 or £4. I shall wait your Orders hereupon & if you incline to try him I believe best loose no time.

I have enquired about a Gun Smith, but I can hear of none Armaments by Land & Privateering coming on employ all these People & they are much wanted.

Some body I forget who, told me your £5000 — waits your Orders in Eng^d. L. Loudoun I suppose can tell you for certain. if it dos, I would advise you to send over a Power of Attorney with as little Delay as possible. tis bad Policy to let Money lay

in the great offices, especially in War time. I would beg leave to recommend my Friend Calcraft to be your Agent in this Affair. I apprehend you will be no where better served or safer & that it will be somewhat of good Policy, he may then pay himself for the Charges of your Commission. I believe the Power you send must be signed in the Presence of Witnesses who are going to Eng^d. Leiu^t. Gov^r. will tell you. If you write Calcraft¹ I would be obliged to you if you would say something to this Purpose. "That as my friend was one reason among others of y^r. applying to him on the Occasion." I am impatient to hear from you. first to know how you are. 2^d. what Face matters wear. 3. whether any fatigues are cut out for you, w^{ch} I am anxious about. I have rode out but once as yet, am still weak but I think better. I wait y^r. Commands w^{ch} I shall Obey wth chearful punctuality, I am hiring a House & in it a room for you & a wife may follow, if I get quite well. my paper wont admit ceremony.

adieu

Adieu. y^{rs}. truly

PETER WRAXALL

FROM JOST HERKIMER AND JOHN CONRAD FRANCK

A. L. S.²

[August, 1756]

HON^d. SIR

We had the honnour of yours of the 22^d. Ulti^o. annent laying out a Road from hear to oswego throw the Six Nations, and as for my part, Hanios Pettrie, I am oald, and lame in one of my jips, and It's not in my power to Undertake any Such fatigue; and for me, Joast Harkemer, I dare not leave my house upon account, of the Millitary, for they Tieraniece over me as they think proper, For the Commanders use me as Ill as the Common

¹ For a sketch of John Calcraft, see *Dictionary of National Biography*.

² Original destroyed by fire.

Soldiers, In short they take a prerogative power in their own hand, Not only by Infesting my house, and taking up my Rooms at pleashure, but takes what they think Nesserarie of my Effects for their own use with out asking, and if shuch doings Is allowed to go on not only I and my familie must suffer but also all my Niebours.

And as for my part Conrat Franks, It is not possible for me to undertake it upon account of Soldiers, Battoee men & Sailors &c. for My house every day is full Either of one sort or another, and within this short time has suffered Considerable by the Sailors under, Captⁿ. Harris Command for they not only, use my house as they thought proper but likewise took what ever of my live Cattle they thought proper for their use, without either asking liberty or paying me for their Vallue, and Supposing I should undertake Such a thing, and leave my house, as matters Stands in, at present; I must Immagine never to See Either my wife or Chieldren again. And notwithstanding all the Endeavours one and all of us has made we cou'd not find any one proper person that would undertake such a piece of work; and althou one and all of us would be ready and willing to do any thing that wou'd tend to his Magisteies Service or the good of our Country, yet as matters Stand now we must be Excused. We Remain with Dew Respect

Hon^d. Sir
Your honours most
obedient and most
humble Serv^t.

JOSEPH HERCH HEIMER
JOHN CONRAD FRANCK

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

L. S.¹*Albany 3^d. August 1756.*

SIR,

As I find it is Your Opinion, that ten Shillings, which is all the Private Men of the Stockbridge Indians have to receive, in case a Month Pay should be kept back, will not answer their present Exigencies, as they tell you; I must leave it entirely to you to Pay them up to the time you shall think proper.

I am, Sir,

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant.

LOUDOUN

SIR W^m: JOHNSON. Bar^t.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.²*[Albany] Thursday 5 August 1756*

DEAR SIR

An Hour after you left us, Mr. Pownall call'd in at Mr. Oglivies House, and asked me whether you had wrote to Lord Halifax I answered I knew not, but believed you had not. I understood he had been talking with you on the Subject & from that Conversation expected you would write. He made so much a Point of it as to desire I would write to you putting you in mind of it. Observing a few words might do to this purpose. Acknowledging his Lordships goodness in interesting himself in your Favour to obtain the appointments & other Advantages lately granted you. [which Mr. Pownall assured me were very much owing to his Lordships activity and personal Sollicitation in

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet collection.

² Original destroyed by fire.

the affair]¹ assuring his Lordship of your constant attention to that part of the General Service committed to your Care and already begun under his Direction, and that you shall gladly receive and be punctual in observing his Lordships Directions in this important Branch of his Majesty's Service — You See the Intention of it. Which is to express your Gratitude, and to let his Lordship know you look upon yourself as under his Direction — that is of the Board at which he presides. This I really take to be the Case, tho not to exclude the Secretary of State. Whose Letters or Orders Mr. Pownall tells me, will as to the Points relating to your Department, take their Rise from Lord Halifax, or at least he will be privy to every thing of that Nature. And in many Cases you will receive Orders from that Board, to which I suppose as usual you will transmit your Proceedings as I suppose you are also to do to the Secretary of State where any of your Proceedings are forwarded upon his Majesty's Orders signified by him. Will it not be proper to acknowledge the Receit of your Commⁿ. & Mr. Fox's Letter. You know these Hints, take their Rise from Friendship, and therefore will excuse the Frankness of them. You must be sensible of the use of keeping up a good Understanding with the Leading Men, you are fairly in the Saddle, and must make the Seat easy.

That Villain Jere we heard this Morning is kill'd by the Soldiers at Schenectady. I wish he had met his Deserts sooner, or he had not come down at this time, and that you may prevent it's giving the Indians the uneasiness apprehended by some here, & especially to the delawares, who may imagine themselves in like Circumstances, and liable to like Treatment.

Give my Compliments to Mr. Ogilvie pray — We shall go on Tuesday² next I believe. I am Dear Sir W^m. your affectionate & obed. h^{ble} Servant

G^w BANYAR

¹ Bracketed in the copy.

² On August 11th Governor Hardy issued a press warrant at Albany to Sir John St Clair; and that day apparently returned to New York.— Council Minutes, 25:135.

FROM CORNELIUS JOHN CUYLER ET AL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 82, by a letter of August 5th from Cornel's Jno. Cuyler, at Schenectady, to Johnson about provisions sent; and a letter of the 6th from Oliver De Lancey, at Albany, on sending Indian presents and the pay for them. These were destroyed by fire.

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

A. L. S.¹*Albany August 6th. 1756*

SIR

I rec'd your favour within this hour and have been at Sir John St Clears and Commissary Lakes,² and I expect to get with the utmost difficulty a 100 skipple sent up this day in bags I have borrowed from different people — and hope I shall get the remainder sent up tomorrow — Waggon's not one in Albany these waggon's came from other parts and were twice pressed — if possible all your goods here shall be sent up tomorrow — the Casks were so bad we could not pack the corn in them — as to Mr. Mathews he was mobed among them one held him by the Collor, an other behind his back Kicked him, a third with a Stone Struck him on the Shoulder so I have been informed the Case was, but he did not shew a proper resentment for which I was very angry with him — but really the Mans Spirits are so broken with their persecuting him that he is quite Cast down —

There is a report here that the Duke of New Castle is in the tower — that salt is like to be excessive dear therefore order them to take care of the salt in the pork barrells, let them wash it, and dry it, it will be as good as the first day, that Cap^t Rogers is sending down a French deserter to be hanged. there was found a paper in his waste Coat which shewed the plans of Fort Edward and William Henry and all our Schaims well drawn, he was with

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Robert Leake, commissary of stores.

Rogers on an Outscout and endeavouring to betray him was found out. they say New Castle is accused of some neglect as to the fleets sailing — this in a hurry my office full — Compliments to Mr. Oglieve his family well Mr^s. Oglevi here last night —

Y^{rs} Sincerely

WILLIAM CORRY

Lake disaapointed me the Waggon to Morrow disappointment then Lord —.

get 16 bags made. been in Schinectady freights Mr. Van Eps for waggon and bags

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.¹

New York 6 Aug^t. 1756.

DEAR SIR

The Packet arrived last night the Letters were delivered this Morning. I have none myself by ² Mr. Franks has from his Friends w^{ch}. say, that the Spanish Ambassador received Dispatches from his Court containing Copy of Mons^r. La Glasioniere ³ Letter to the French Ministry acquainting them that his Squadron came in sight of ours under Admiral Bing,⁴ who declared ⁵ an Engagement but La Glasioniere came up with him & they engaged for some time when Bing shoved off for Gibraltar & that we had one Ship more than the French. The 23 of June No News had arrived in England of the Surrender of St. Philips Old Blakeny ⁶ makes a Defence w^{ch}. is highly applauded by the French, but it was universally expected he could not hold out

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² "By" in the copy; "but" was written probably.

³ Marquis de La Galissonière, French naval officer, formerly governor of Canada.

⁴ John Byng, born 1704, shot for neglect of duty in 1757.

⁵ "Declared" in the copy. "Declined" was written evidently.

⁶ General William Blakeney.

many days longer. Lord Anson,¹ all the World rave at Bing. Admiral Howke² is saild for the Mediterranean Mens fears are great for Gibraltar. They dread Boscowen³ wont be strong enough for the Best⁴ Squadron w^{ch} is at Sea. Mons^r.

⁵ is saild with a Squadron for North America. Hannoveriens Landed. Political Complaints, Disorders, Tumults &c. in England Mens hopes are ebbd & a flood of fears are driving in. Gov^r. of Gibraltar⁶ in disgrace for denying a Reg^t to M^r. Bing who was ordered to call there for one. Lord Tyrawley⁷ sent there in his room. In short M^r. Franks's Letters are very Gloomy & if they speak the Sense of the Public, tis a November-June with 'em in England.

Considerate Minds will not take their Hopes & Fears from Spirits easily depressed & easily elated. Let us hope the best & not fear the worst, oh that we could, at least may we be able to transmit better news to them than they send us.

I will add no more lest I should loose the first Boat than that I truly am

My Dear Sir

Your sincere Friend

& Affect Servant

PETER WRAXALL

I hope I have a Letter on the Way from you. I repeat when you want me say, Ile come without Delay.

¹ Lord George Anson, English admiral, born 1697, died 1762.

² Edward Hawke, English admiral, born 1705, died 1781.

³ Edward Boscawen, English admiral, born 1711, died 1761.

⁴ "Best" in copy; should be "Brest."

⁵ The name omitted is evidently Montcalm. "The first week in April, Montcalm . . . gave Hawke the slip and stole out of Brest with a squadron of six of the line and another thousand men,"—J. S. Corbett, *England in the Seven Years' War*, p. 101–2.

⁶ General Fowke was governor of Gibraltar.

⁷ General James O'Hara, Lord Tyrawley, "governor of Minorca until 1756, when he was sent out on the Gibraltar expedition."—*Dictionary of National Biography*.

TO JOHN BRADSTREET

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 83, by a letter of August 7th from Johnson to Captain John Bradstreet on transportation of Indian supplies. This paper was destroyed by fire.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF SCHOHARIE

Df.¹S.

Fort Johnson August 7th. 1756

GENTLEMEN

As there is a Road to be Cutt from the German Flatts to Oswego now directly. this is to give Notice to all who may incline to Undertake or work at the Same, to come immediately to my House, & they Shall know y^e. Terms.

I am

Gentlemen

Y^r. Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

To all the Inhabitants of Schohare

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.¹

Schenectady Camp 8th. August 1756

DR. S^R. WILLIAM

By a Letter lately come from L^d. Loudon we find he is much incensed against the Officers who were concerned in Jerrys Death; it would be doing them a Singular favour, as well as obliging the whole Reg^t., to endeavour to pacify My Lord, as he seems now determined to proceed against them if not prevented by y^r. kind Interposition.

I am apprehensive, My Lord, thinks the Worst of Consequences may arise from this affair, believing the Indians so provoked, as there may be no satisfying them; Our accounts by Cap^t. Buttler, I think say, that the Mohowks are no Way displeased, & that the Sachems of the other Nations, think the Indian deserved

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

what he met With, and that they would endeavour to pacify their Young Men; if it's so, I request you Will be so kind, as to Inform my Lord of it, by the return of this Express, and You Will much Oblige and serve the whole Corps. Col. Gage does not write till the Messenger returns from you to His Lordship. so request you will be Speedy. I am Dr. Sr. William

Most Sincerely Yours

WILL EYRE

FROM HORATIO GATES

*Copy*¹

Herkimer 8th. Aug. 1756

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON, Bar^t. at Fort Johnson.

SIR,

I can no longer avoid acquainting you of the extreme ill behavior of Justice Herkimer², his family & relations who are not only perpetually making the Indians drunk with Rum, which they sell in most unreasonable quantities but are taking all opportunities to create an animosity between the Officers, Soldiers & the Indians. Of this, I have most authentic proofs as this scandalous & perverse conduct of these people may & will, if persisted in, produce the worst of consequences. I thought it my duty to acquaint you of it, & desire you will exert your magisterial authority to stop this growing ill, which will save me the disagreeable office of doing that by force of arms which ought to be done by the powers of governments — As there is at this time a quantity of Rum in the houses of Herkimer & his daughter to prevent future mischief I think it should be seized which I did not care to do without first having your opinion thereon. When Herkimer meets with any thing he does not

¹ In Library of Congress, Force Transcripts, Miscellaneous, v. 3.

² Johan Jost (Hanyost) Herchheimer, or Herkimer, father of General Nicholas Herkimer, of the Revolution.

like, he threatens to complain to Bradstreet, but this does not deter any one for doing any thing consistent with Honor, & reason.

With very great esteem,

I am, Sir,

your most obedient humble
servant,

Horatio Gates

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.¹

New York Sunday Evening [August 8, 1756²]

MY DEAR SIR

This afternoon I received your very kind favour of the 2^d. Inst. the Three Lines in the Margin, to wit, that you would be glad to see me as soon as I conveniently can, prevent my entering into any of the Subjects, as I will set out from hence as soon as I can get my self ready w^{ch}. I hope will be towards the end of this Week.

I shall bring a Sample of the Gorgets. I shall bespeak your Cloaths & I propose if I dont hear from you before I go to the Contrary, to bring up Mr. Farril with me, upon Condition *if an Agreement is not made for his Stay, that the Expences of his going & returning be paid him.*

Tho I still feel the Effects of my late illness, I am much better & Magra promises to furnish me with traveling Orders.

I thank God the pain in your Breast is removed I hope your Cough will soon follow as to the rest you deserved the Scourge & I wont say I pity you. however pray be Obedient & regular. The Examination of y^r. Onondaga Proceedings, Letter to Board of Trade & d^o. to L^d. Hallifax will I apprehend be time enough

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² The date is supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

when I come up. You know you lately wrote largely to the Board, you gave them (by the Packet w^{ch} is not yet sailed) a Summary of y^r. Onondaga proceed^{gs}. & subsequent Treaty. so that I conceive there is less hurry necessary for these matters I suppose Your Acc^t. of first £5000 goes home with y^r. next Letter upon w^{ch}. I imagine some Observations will be necessary to be made to their Lordships.

I expect in two or three Days to hire me a house & put a House keeper in it to get every thing in order against I come down next, when (health permitting) I shall certainly commit Matrimony. Your Comp^{ts}. are very obliging to the Dear Creature, she is a good Girl & I think will never give me Cause to repent. If I had been to stay here a little longer, matters wou'd be I believe concluded on & the irrevocable "*I take thee*" be announced — but all things must give place to my public Duties, in w^{ch}. your voice & our Friendship will be always uppermost to me, & this I will evince If My Lord Loudoun makes Difficulties about my Salary, there shall be none with me whilst you are pleased to think me necessary to you. Last nights Post from Boston brings Advices in ab^t. 7. Weeks from Cadiz that there had been a warm Engagement between Adm^l. Bing & La Glasioniere, that the latter had been obliged to sail for Toulon & Marsielles to refit & the former was got into Port Mahon.

We are unwilling to believe the London Acc^{ts}. & hope for a Confirmation of better.

Gov^r. Morris¹ has met the Delawares &c. at Easton. I think if not sent you you should at least insist on a Copy of their Proceedings. in my opinion they ought not to presume to call any

¹ Robert Hunter Morris was born in Morrisania, N. Y., about the year 1700, and died January 27, 1764, in Shrewsbury, N. J. He was chief justice of New Jersey from 1738 to 1764, a member of the council of New Jersey in 1738, and from October 3, 1754, to August 20, 1756, he was governor of Pennsylvania.

Meeting. I have much to say on these Subjects w^{ch} I shall refer till we meet. may it be in Mutual Health.

I am truly

Dear Sir William

Y^{rs}. Sincerely & affectionately

PETER WRAXALL

FROM OLIVER DE LANCEY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 83, by a letter of August 9th from Oliver De Lancey, at Albany, to Johnson on goods for Indians and papers belonging to "Sir Peter's estate." Destroyed by fire.

TO ALEXANDER TURNBULL¹

A. Df. S.²

Fort Johnson, August the 9th. 1756

1 You are to keep your Party Sober, & in good order & prevent their haveing any unnecessary Intercourse with the Indians, least any difference might arise between them from too much familiarity.

2 If any difference should arise between them, or the Indians use any of Your Party Ill, I am to be imediately acquainted with it.

4 You will in the Day time keep one Sentry on the Eminence to the Northward of the House, who upon Seeing the Enemy advance, is to fire his peice & retreat to the Fort. Another Sentry to be posted at the gate of the Fort on the outside who is also to enter the Fort on the advanced Sentries alarming him.

3 The Serjant to take Care that the Mens Quarters be kept verry Clean, and that they Wash well, & freshen their Salt Pro-

¹ Of the 42d regiment, stationed mainly at Schenectady. Turnbull with his detachment was evidently to be at Fort Johnson.

² In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection, 58. These orders are printed in *Orderly Book of Sir John Johnson*, annotated by William L. Stone, with an Introduction by J. Watts de Peyster, p. v-vi.

visions, the neglect of w^h. makes them Subject to many Disorders fatall to the Troops in this part of the World.

7 In Case of an attack, the 2 Bastions to be properly manned, the Curtains also, there mixing Some of my People wth. Yours. The remainder of My People to Man the Dwelling House & fight from thence, makeing Use of the four Wall Peices, & Musquetoons out of the Window fitted for them.

6 Whenever an alarm is given by the advanced Sentry, you will order three Pattereroes¹ to be imediately fired that being the Signall I have given to the Mohawks, & on their approach near the Fort when Challenged, they are to Answer George as Distinct as they Can, then to be admitted if practicable.

5 When there are no Indians here the Gates to be Locked at 8 o Clock in y^e. evening and opened at Six In the Morning: first looking round about to See that all is Safe & clear — the advanced Sentry to be posted Every Day.

The Mens Arms & Amunition }
to be kept in good Order }

I am Sr.

Y^{rs}.

W^m. JOHNSON

To Lieu^t.

ALEXANDER TURN BULL

¹ Pedreros. "Spanish pedrero . . . The English forms show many corruptions of the original, the later ones being apparently influenced by Patter. A piece of ordnance originally for discharging stones; formerly also used to discharge broken iron, partridge-shot, etc.; and for firing salutes."—*A New English Dictionary*.

TO HORATIO GATES

*Df. S.*¹*August 10th 1756.*

SIR

This morning I received yours of the 8th Inst. with a Complaint agst. Harkemer, and his Son in Law for Selling Rum to y^e Indians and endeavouring to create a Misunderstanding between the officers, Soldiers & them. Those are Evils which should be prevented by all Means, and in order to put a Stop to them I shall send for Harkemer, & his Son in Law. at the Same time it will be necessary that you send me all the Proof you Can to make good those Allegations against them.

I am extreemly hurried being Surrounded by above 900 of the Copper Colour. So that I have only time to assure you I am truely

Y^r. Most Humble Serv^t,W^m. JOHNSON

As the Bearer of this is a verry Clever fellow I should be glad you would take a little notice of him, & let him have some provisions. My Compliments to all your Corps there. Nothing new here. I sent up three days ago a large Package of Letters among w^h. were Severall for you & the officers there which I hoped were delivered by the Indians.

To: CAPTⁿ. HORATIO GATES.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

*A. L. S.*¹*Albany 12 August 1756: 7 A M*

DEAR SIR

I inclose you a List I took from Sr. Charles's Mouth, which he begs you'll procure for him with what other Indian Curioities you can get him. As he is made an Admiral, I expect he'll use his Interest immediately to get appointed to some Naval Command, and bring us another New Face. Tis only my Conjecture, but I dare say as certain almost as if himself had told you so. He gave me yesterday the List of persons informed ag^t. for selling Rum to Indians & ordered me to deliver it to the Recorder with Directions to put the Law in Execution against. I gave him a Copy, having the Original in your Hand by me I know of no News. It looks as if Bing had been worsted If so Minorca is gone probably. Keep up your Correspondence with Sir Charles.

I am

Dr. Sir

your affectionate

& obed^t. Servant

GW BANYAR

I have got your line to St. Chas. & Acco^t. and Order for the Indian Fort. & will make out a Warrant on my Admiral of N York which I dont expect to leave in a Hurry, as I dare say I shall decline coming again on a like Occasion.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

FROM JAMES DE LANCEY AND CHARLES CRAVEN

A. L. S.¹*Oneida Carrying Place August 13th 1756*

SIR

Major Craven has thought proper to send an Indian down to you by Mr. Read as we suspect him to be in the Enemies Interest; for while our Cattle were feeding about half a mile beyond Fort Newport one of the guard which had the care of the Cattle heard the Bushes behind him rattle. upon this he look'd and saw this Indian coming out of the Bushes he cocked his Piece at him the Indian then cryed Johnson Brother and wanted to shake hands with the Soldier, the Soldier then asked him where he came from. the Indian answered from the Lake, the Soldier [asked] what made him come through the Woods, he said he was afraid the Soldiers wou'd hurt him, when he came to the Corporal of the Guard he asked him where he came from, the Indian said from Cadaraqui, and that they had repaired the Fort. that it was built of Lime and Stone eight foot thick; the Place where the Indian was discovered is the same where one of our Serjeants and one private Man were scalped some time ago and one Serjeant taken Prisoner; when he came to Fort William he was again Interrogated where he came from, he said from Cadaraqui and that it was very strong. that last year we might have taken it but now the French were twenty times stronger than we, he said also that there twelve more with him, & that formerly they had rewards for Scalps but now they were to take Prisoners only, (on Sunday last one of our Men was missing and has not been heard of since he went out a fishing up the River) Corporal Man of General Shirley's Regt. says he knew this Indian in South Carolina and that he then went by the Name of Samuel Norris and when he was with Colonel Washington at the Great Meadows (Corporal Man then belonged to the Carolina Inde-

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

pendant Companies and was then with Cap^t: Maçoy) this same Indian & several others to about the Number of fifty went away on Pretence to bring down their wives & Families, and went over to Fort Duequesne and took the Half King Silver Heels, Monekatuca, Cut away Iach. Monekatucas Son, and Free Robin Prisoners to Fort Dusquesne and delivered them to the French three or four days after the above mentioned Indians were Prisoners they got leave to walk without the Fort and immediately came down to Colonel Washington and informed them that the French and Indians were coming to attack them and that this Sam Norris Delaway George with whom this Indian used always to keep Company & great part of the others had joined the French and were coming with them to attack us. James Battey Soldier in the Carolina Blues was with Colonel Washington at the same time and confirms what Corporal Man's says. Corporal White of my Company says that he knows this Indian to be a Shawanese. I suppose Silver Heels is with you and will be able to inform whether what is said against this Indian is true or not Major Craven desires his Compliments I am

Sir

Your most Obedient humble Ser^t.

JAMES DELANCEY

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

SIR

This Suspected Indian told me that he had heared great Cannonading at Oswego & that he immagined the French had beseiged it & was going to bring you intelligence of it. he afterwards said his Wife lived at the Flatts & he was going to her —

I am

Sir

Your most Obed^t. Servant

CHA CRAVEN

To SIR W^m. JOHNSON Bar^t.

TO THOMAS BUTLER

*Df. S.*¹*Fort Johnson, 15 Augst. 1756*

SIR

I have engaged the Bearer James Connor² as Serjant to serve as such in the Company of Rangers some of whom are now under your Command. As Such you are to look upon him, & order him accordingly. He will be an active usefull person, as I have also Sent up Cap^t. Funda³ to Join you, I think you can now carry on that Service with ease to your Self & satisfaction to the General. which is what I heartily wish for. and from your prudence and Zeal what I have no reason to doubt of. pray write me by every oppertunity what occurs to you.

I wish you Success
& am Your Friend
& Humble Servant

W^m. JOHNSON

Collo.

CAP^t. THOMAS BUTLER

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*A. L. S.*⁴*Burnets Field Aug^t. 16th: 1756*

SIR

I Rec^d. your favour dated Yesterday Wherein I find you have Received Intelligence of the Enemys desire to Atack us, and that you have wrote the same To Major General Webb. You

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² See James Connor's Report, November 8, 1755.

³ Jelles Fonda.

⁴ In New York Historical Society, Miscellaneous Manuscripts. A copy of this letter is in the Library of Congress, Force Transcripts, Miscellaneous, v. 3.

May depend I shall take all the Care imaginable to prevent **any** Surprise. & hope you wont doubt my Courage for I am detirmin'd to Venture my life to the Utm^{ost}. You Seem to Signifie that you will be with us if it Shou'd be So am Sure we Must have a Number of Indians More then we Now Shall. I find the Tuskaroras will not joyn us as they are dissatisfied yet about Jorreys¹ Death the Onidas this day Waited on the General and told how redy they were to Serve him on your acc^t. I have not time to mention the perticulars that past at this Meeting — the Express — Jest Going of from Gen^l. Webb. As you Mentioned Cap^t. Fondas joyning Me I Spoke To him as I was comeing up and I now find by yours he will be Soon here. I think Cap^t. Fondas a Very Good man though at the Same time, Shou'd been Glad to have Seen My Brother in his Stead. As he has waited all the summer Your Commands. but hope you wont forget him, I expected Some few of the Mohawks here this Day but none has arived Gen^l. Webb arrived here this day with the Regm^t. all Well. I am Now to acquaint you that this afternoon the Kiyogah known by the Name of the Negro came here from Ondagah Which place he left yesterday and Says the Fort on the East Side of oswego was besig'd by the French &^{ca} This News he had from two Onadagas that was come from thence and by the Severall Surcumstances he tells I belive it To be True. though Several Gent^lⁿ. here laughs at it the Indian Goes from this to your House to morrow Morning, from Whom you'l have the perticulars

¹ William Jere, alias Skowonidous, a Tuscarora killed at Schenectady by soldiers. See *Doc. Rel. Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:177-78.

I dont doubt but youll have a letter by this Express from Major General Webb concerning it we are like to tarry here To morrow —

I am

Sir Your Most Dutifull

and Obed^t: Serv^t:

THOS: BUTLER

ADDRESSED: To

Sir William Johnson Bar^t

at

Fort Johnson

INDORSED: Burnetsfeild August 16th. 1756

Captⁿ. Butlers Letter ¹

TO CHARLES CRAVEN

*Df.*²

Fort Johnson 16 Augst. 1756

SIR

Before I rec^d. yours, or Cap^t. DeLanceys favour I dispatched an Express to Lord Loudoun, & another to Major General Webb with the Intelligence which this Indian you Suspect brought me, and which General Webb no doubt will acquaint you with. I have on the receipt of both Yours examined Mr. Croghan, and one John Davis who are acquainted with all the Indians who accompanied Coll^o. Washington two years ago this Davis was wth. Washington all the time, and says he never saw this Indian there, neither was the Half King, Monacatouth, Silver Heels or any of those mentioned by Serj^t. Man & the other Soldier ever taken prisoners by this Sam, or any other, nor brought to Fort Due Quesne there was another Indian called Sam with Mr.

¹ In Johnson's handwriting.

² Original destroyed by fire.

Washington Davis says, but he never knew this Man there. Mr. Croghan says that Delaware George always kept with him, but never knew this Indⁿ. before. He is a Pede, and not a Shawanese. He has been near four years living at Oneida, never was with Washington, nor does he know him, never was at Fort Du Quesne, Cadarachqui nor Oswegoe he says. neither does he know those Ind^s. the Serj^t. or Corporal says he kept Company with, & assisted to make prisoners as they say He says that he met 3 Soldiers by the way between the Forts who gave him Rum and made him so merry that when he came into your Fort he lost 2 Drawbank and a Dollar & a half in Cash. this is what I can learn about this Indⁿ. from himself, Mr. Croghan and John Davis. As to the Money paid Senuchsis for the Horse, if it can be proved that Dennis Madden took him away, I think he ought to pay it, and suffer for it besides He has not lived on my Land this long time, neither do I know anything of him lately. I am much hurried, so have only time to assure you

I am Sir

Your Most Hum Serv^t.

My Compliments to
Cap^t. DeLancey.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.¹

Burnets Field Aug^t. 18 1756

SIR

Last Night the two Indians you Sent with a packett to Oswego Returned hither Say Near the three Rivers met three Soldiers comeing from Oswego with letters, who gave an account that the East and west Fort were both besig'd by the Enemy, that they made a Shift to Steal out the Garrison along the lake Side that the French are very Numerous, and told those Indians they had better go back upon which they returned in Comp^y. with the

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

three men as far as the rift above the three Rivers where they left them with an Ondagah woman. They suppose they may have been last night at the Onida Carrying place, as these two Indians were Returning were overtaken by an Onida who had been at Oswego Gave them a belt wompom he rec^d from the French there desiring the five Nations to keep out way as were besieging Oswego for they did not desire to Hurt the Indians.

The Kattle that were driveing to Oswego are Returning. This Moment arived the Soldars mentioned above who says Oswego That is all the Forts¹ are taken together with the Vessels. Col^l. Mercer² is Killed.

For the particulars I refer you to Cap^t. Richman³ who is going down. As I am Teased with the Indians cant write any more at present. The packet shall Send you by Cap^t. Richman. I am
y^r. Very Dutifull and obed^t. Serv^t.

THO^s. BUTLER⁴

¹ It is now certain that no regular operations will be undertaken till spring; but when it was determined that the army at Oswego should go into winter quarters, they began a new fort upon a hill on the east side of the river, about 470 yards from the old one; it is 800 feet in circumference, and will command the harbour; it is built of logs from 20 to 30 inches thick; the wall is 14 feet high, and is encompassed by a ditch 14 feet broad, and 10 deep; it is to contain barracks for 300 men, and to mount 16 guns. On the other side of the river, west of the old fort, another new fort is erecting; this is 170 feet square, the rampart is of earth and stone, 20 feet thick and 12 feet high, besides the parapet; this is also encompassed with a ditch 14 feet broad and 10 feet deep, and is to contain barracks for 200 men. This fort will be fortified with the greatest care, as there is a good landing, and an easy ascent not far off. An hospital of framed work, 150 feet by 30, is already built, which may serve as a barrack for 200 men; and another barrack is preparing of 150 feet by 24. From these preparations, it seems reasonable to conclude that the general intends to winter with his army at Oswego, that they may more expeditiously go into action in the spring.—*Gentleman's Magazine*, January, 1756, 26:7.

² Colonel James F. Mercer, commandant.

³ Captain Ezra Richmond, of the New York regiment.

⁴ "Jno" in the copy; it should be "Thos."

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

*A. L. S.*¹*Albany August 20th 1756*

SIR

As the Sittuation of the Country requires the aid of the Mellitia I must Desier you will rais one thousand of them and March them to the German Flatts where you will take the Command and Corespond and Coopperat with M G Webb who is at the Great Caring Place and send me Constant Intelligence of all you can learn

I am

Sir

Your most obedeent

humble Servant

LOUDOUN

To SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar

When ever you See it Propper to to move the Postes of the Regular troops in that Neighbourhood there are hereby Directed to obey your order of forwarding them on to M G Webb

LOUDOUN

INDORSED: *Albany Aug. 20. 1756*L^d. Loudouns Ordersto March wth. y^e. Militia

to Burnetsfeild—

¹ In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

TO LORD LOUDOUN

*Contemporary Copy*¹*Conojohary Aug 22^d 9 at night.*

MY LORD —

I wrote your Lordship this morning just as I was setting out. This moment I mett an Onondaga Indian who says he came Running to me from Oswego with y^e Following Account Viz.— That 9 Daies ago y^e Fort on the east side of y^e River after an Attack of two daies had surrendered that the old Fort held out when he came away which was last wednesday — So that by his Account they must have been engaged four daies & were still in possession of the Fort. Our People sallied out he says & fought bravely. there were two French Vessels laying before y^e Fort & playd briskly against it Five Officers & about 20 of our Men he heard were killd when He left the place & Several of the Enemy He & another Onondaga were all y^e Indians on our Side. The other he says was killd, & he himself wounded in the Arm & shot thorough y^e Shirt in several Places — which I have seen— I hope to be at the German Flatts by 12 o'clock to morrow when I shall be able I hope to muster a Considerable Number of Indians & if I find that the French are still there I shoud be glad (if Your Lordship approves of it) to join Maj^r Gen^l Webb & go with him to Oswego. I shall send your Lordship all y^e Intelligence I can gett & as early as Possible

I am My Lord &c

W^m Johnson —

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 47, London, England. Inclosed doubtless in a letter from Loudoun to Henry Fox.

Copy—

P: S

As I am not well acquainted with this Indians Character I cannot say much about his Intelligence. He seems sincere & tells it with an air of Honesty.—

His Excellency. The R^t. Hon^{bl} y^e EARL OF LOUDOUN &c

INDORSED: Copy of a Letter from S^r. William
Johnson to the E. of Loudoun
Conojohary 22^d. August 1756.
in the E. of Loudoun's Letter
of Aug^t. 23^d: 1756.

2

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

*Albany 23^d. August 1756**Contemporary Copy*¹

I have just received your Letter of the 22^d. and must approve of your proposal of going on to M. G. Webb, and if your Intelligence is such as you can depend upon, and that you find your numbers are such that you can have a chance of relieving the place or retaking it, that you should both proceed with all Expedition; this is all I can say on the Subject, but that I shall strengthen the post you leave.

I have heard nothing of Captain Bradstreet which prevents my being able to ² forward the provisions from Schenectady; And he is hereby directed to Obey you in all such orders as he shall receive from you for carrying on the Service in consequence of directions to you.

INDORSED: Copy of a Letter from the E of Loudoun
to Sir William Johnson.—
Albany 23^d. August 1756.—
in the E. of Loudoun's Letter
of Aug^t. 23^d. 1756

m

4

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 47, London, England.

² "Proceed" crossed out is in the original.

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

L. S.

Albany 26th August 1756

SIR,

Late last Night, I had the Pleasure of yours of the <24th>¹ which gives me great Pleasure, to find your People have been so allert in getting up; I have enquired about the Powder; there were ten Barrils and two thousand Weight of Lead sent from hence, and delivered to the Person you directed it to, whose Receipt we have for it, And I have sent off Major Dobbs, this day, to follow it out, and see where it has been stopt, and forward it on to you; the embezling of Seventeen hundred out of two thousand, is to much, and I shall convince whoever did it, it is wrong, if I can find him out.

Your Mohawk Castle shall be supplied.

I have writ fully to Mr. Webb, and I must beg of you, to meet with him, and Cooperate together; I was promised five hundred more Men to send you, but they are not arrived; the Batteaus not coming down, distress me prodigiously in supplying you; but nothing shall be left undone in my Power; in the mean time, I ever am most faithfully,

Sir,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant.

LOUDOUN

Sir WILLIAM JOHNSON, Bar^t.

¹ Not found.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*Great Carrying Place 27th. Augst. 1756**A. L.¹*

SIR

This Morning I Sent you an Account of the Fate of Oswego p^r Jacob the Onida Since which Connor Murrey & the indian arrived whom I acquainted you had Sent to Oswego I gave them an indian Letter to Niclas desireing him To Give them all the assistance he could on their March which they say he did, but advised them not to proceed at least further then Ondaga. however they resolv'd to Go on upon which he furnished them with an indian. he asured them Oswego was all in ashes On their March between Tuskarora and Onadago they met with Onadago Indians who told them to turn back. that Oswego was destroy'd & that they cou'd not pass Ondago. they themselves had Seen the place all in Ruins had likewise Spoke the French, who told them they had now fought two battles with the English. and Should Very Soon fight the third which wou'd Make Every thing between them & us Easey. That they Saw the French and indians Set of from Oswego. these report that the prisioners were Chiefly officers, that Vast numbers lay Slauter'd round about Oswego So that the Staunch may be Smelt at a Great distance from thence —

I Send inclosed the Strings Wompom bro^t here by the High Preest.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*Onida Carrying Place 29th. Aug^t: 1756*A. L. S.¹

SIR

When I came to the German Flatts found there Several the Uper Nations. To whom I spoke and found twenty Eight Onidas, who promised to Go with me. Eleven Sinakass one Onadago. Seven Mohawks of the lower Castle and Ten of Conojohary Makeing in all fifty Six which I thought a Sufficient Number with Those I understood were To joyn me on the road to Oswego But unhapily at the flatts We got the News of Oswego being attacked. Major Gen^l. Webb Gave orders for the Regmt. &c. with him to decamp and March To the Onida Carrying place, Upon which I went Emeadiatly To all The Indians whom had ingaged and told them the Necessity of the Armys Marching directly, for fear the Enemy Shou'd be at the Carrying place before us. they made Several objections Saying it was too late in the day, and they wou'd eaisily overtake us the next Morning however the Cinakas promised To follow that Evning. I acquainted the Indians that as Gen^l. Webb had no Guide Must Go with him with as Many indians as wou'd then incline To Go I left Mr. Fonda &c. to bring up The remainder. Mr. Fonda can inform you what Trouble he had To Get them To Move at all. but after Some time they overtook Us here. when I talkt or Mententioned to the Indians of Going a Scouting they askt for pay in C. for the Same besides their dayley wages which I was obliged To do To Some. there Seems no Such thing as Sattisfieing the Indians and allways Casting Reflections — As To provisions They have not wanted, Ten pound foureteen Shillings Mr. Fonda layed out at the German Flatts in lether the most of which they have had besides Near fifeteen pounds here Yet they have allmost all left me.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

A party with Silivers Heals, it was Some time before I could find out where they were bound. after I knew was pressing them To Go on and last night prevailed on five who with Connor and Tho^s. Harris left here Eairly this Morning for Oswego I hertily wish those may Succeed.—

The most of the Gent^m. here looks on Indians as Trifles & of little Use and talk in Such manner that if the indians Shou'd hear Must Certainly Make a Rupture between them and us. Cap^t. Bradstreet Seems the only man here with the Genⁿ. I hope things May not run the Same Channel they did last year I shall tell you More when I have the pleasure of Seeing You. Mr. Fonda was packt up this Morning in order To Go home. but I reciveing a letter from Mr. Crogan that he wu'd be here this Evning he resolv'd to Stay till he comes. Were not on your Acc^{ts}: Shou'd Go away myself. I am very Sorrey To ¹ you are so unwell. but wish you a Speedy recovery Which are the Herty prayers of

Sir

Y^r. Most Dutifull Ser^t:

THOS: BUTLER

ADDESSED: to Sir William Johnson at Burnets Field ²

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

L. S.

Albany 2^d September 1756

SIR,

By a Letter I had this morning from Major General Webb, I <find he> has found it necessary, to make the Stand at the German Flatts, rather than at the Carrying Place, and for that purpose is coming there, and have desired him to consult with you, whether it will be necessary to keep the w<hole> Militia,

¹ Word omitted in copy.

² Address omitted in copy; supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

or what part of them, that are now with you; and this must depend, on the Intelligence you receive from the Indians, you have sent out, or that you may be able to get in any other way.

Before that resolution was taken, foreseeing your people would not be kept long, in that Situation, I had this morning wrote to Sir Charles Hardy, to desire he would send me up, some of the Militia from the Lower Country,¹ in order to support you; and must now leave that affair, as it now stands, till I hear from Mr. Webb and you, after you have had a Meeting.

I am most Affectionately,

Dear Sir,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant.

LOUDOUN

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart.

FROM RICHARD PETERS

A. L. S.

Philadelphia 3 Sept 1756

SIR

Governor Denny did himselfe the honour of writing a long Letter to you by Captⁿ Newcastle wherein he gave you an Account of all the Transactions between this Government and the Susquehannah Indians in consequence of the good dispositions they were put into by the joint Interposition of your good Offices

¹ In a letter of September 6th to Johnson, Governor Hardy said, after ordering that the detachment of Albany militia at German Flats be strengthened by a fresh detachment from the same battalion of militia: "And in case a still greater Force shall be required from the Militia to protect that part of the Country. You are to give orders for the marching of such greater Force and even to march yourself with the whole Batalion if necessary on any Emergency. In which case you are to require Such aid from the Commanding officers of Ulster and Dutches as you shall judge proper to march for the security of the City of Albany."—*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:732; Q, 2:426.

and those of the Six Nations. In the Close of his Letter he mentiond some Information he had reced of Teedyuscung the Chief of the Delaware Indians at Diahogo, as if he was not the man he pretended to be at some late Conferences held with the Indians at Easton at which Newcastle was present, and upon this Information Newcastle grew uneasy & proposd to take a journey to you in order to enquire into the Reality of Teedyuscungs Professions and Authority as he had frequently said he had received it from the Six Nations.

Now, Sir, since writing that Letter a special Messenger has been sent to Teedyuscung, a Man of Understanding who is Major of the Provincial Forces and he is now returnd & says positively that the former Accounts in prejudice to Teedyuscung, ought not to gain credit, for he has well accounted for his stay, has left his Wife and two Children among us as a Security for his honesty & did at going away declare he would use all his Interest with the Indians & bring with him in two Months a large number of Delawares & other Tribes of Indians who shou'd renew their former Treaties & enter into a strict Bond of Amity with the English. I am commanded by y^e Gov^r. to communicate this to you & to desire it may be imparted to Captⁿ. Newcastle to prevent any unjust Jealousies they might conceive ag^t. Teedyuscung.

I have the honor to be

Sir

your most obedient

humble Servant

RICHARD PETERS

INDORSED: Rich^d. Peter's. Letter

Philadelphia 3 Sep^r. 1756

FROM SIR CHARLES HARDY

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:123-25, is a letter of September 5, from Sir Charles Hardy to the lords of trade, in which Johnson's activities at the time of the loss of Oswego are described. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:732, is an order of September 6 from Sir Charles Hardy to Johnson for reinforcing the detachment ordered to German Flats.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

There is found in the Johnson Calendar, p. 84, a letter, of September 10th, from Johnson to the lords of trade, mentioning the effect on the Indians of Oswego's fall, his call of an Indian meeting, scalping parties, discussing Indian presents, French cunning in Indian matters, the Pennsylvania land grant, and promising an early account of disbursements (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:733-37; Q. 2:426-29 and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:127-30). Destroyed by fire.

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

Copy ¹

Albany 10th. Sept 1756.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

SIR

Last night I had the pleasure of yours of the 8th. I am very glad to hear that you grow better but should be very far from desiring you to make any journey you are not fit to undertake; and the more so, that a great part of the business I wanted to talk with you about is answered in this letter—

The first part of which was to regulate my letter to Gov^r. Denny in the first scrawl of which I had writ a very strong paragraph forbidding the people of Pennsylvania from negotiating or meddling with the Indians, but through you whom the King had thought proper to appoint for that purpose—But, when the fate of Oswego came to be known, I then doubted whether at this instant, it might be in your power to manage those Indians that lye at such a distance, and in that situation, it might not be reasonable if they could settle with the Indians in their neighborhood for their own preservation for the present, under certain restrictions from you, without giving them any permanent right to intermeddle in Indian affairs—

In this, I did not choose to take any steps till I knew your opinion, & now shall write to Gov. Denny and show him the

¹ In Library of Congress, Force Transcripts, Miscellaneous, v. 3.

real situation of the whole Indian affairs, of your having the King's commission, as sole agent & manager of the Six Nations & their allies under my direction; and that I am commanded by His Majesty to send & appoint a proper person to be sole agent for the southern Indians; so that whoever intermeddles in Indian affairs does it in direct contradiction of the King's orders — and interferes with the office he has by his commission given to you and the Commander in Chief of his Forces for the time being —

As to the Indian presents, the destination you have made is very different from that made at London, by the government; but that alteration I will venture to take upon me, so far as we shall concert; I have got them here so that you can be supplied —

I must now inform you of a piece of intelligence I have just received from M. G. Lyman; that Jacob the Stockbridge Indian has been opposite to Tienderoga and taken two scalps, that from there he viewed the French Camp, which he reported a fortnight ago to be twice as large as that at Fort Edward and is now positive it is not above half as large as the Fort Edward Camp.

It behoves us to find out where they are gone to strike their stroke; whether they have crossed over to come down the branch of Hudson's River that falls into the Seondago Creek¹ and so to come down on your house & endeavor to cut off Mr. Webb's retreat: or if they are come round by the East side of Wood Creek either to attack Fort Edward or fall in on the Eastern of Hudson's River; and I must beg that you will take all possible pains to find it out & give Mr. Webb & me intelligence from time to time as I shall to you of whatever I discover —

I imagine Mr. Webb has three different roads by which he

¹ Sacondaga creek, the relation of which to Hudson river Loudoun misconceived.

can retreat, in case he is overpowered by numbers — Your will be so good as to inform of them —

I am, with the greatest truth & esteem,

Sir

Your most obedient
humble servant,

Loudoun —

P.S. I have since rec'd yours of the 10th.¹

I shall regulate my letter to Gov. Denny according to y^r directions. I shall immediately garrison the Mohawk castles and forward you the Indian presents.

TO THE EARL OF HALIFAX

*Df*²

Fort Johnson 11 Sep^r. 1756.

MY LORD

Mr. Pownall hath made me extreamly happy by informing me, That I have been honoured with Your Lordships Patronage, & that You condescended to interest Your self in my favour with a friendly & active Zeal; in consequence of which I beg permission to assure Your Lordship, that I have the most respectful & grateful Sense of so honourable a Distinction, and that I am animated with the sincerest Resolutions of manifesting my Duty to His Most Gracious Majesty & of serving my Country, in the Department wherein He hath been pleased to place me, in the most faithful & best manner I am able. Your Lordship I am sensible has an undoubted right to expect this Conduct from me, and I am equally convinced, that I shall thereby fulfill Your Lordships Intentions & Wishes.

My Lord I will never wilfully give you reason to repent or Cause to Blush, that You have honoured me with Your Patron-

¹ Not found.

² Original destroyed by fire.

age & conferred Your Favours upon me, and it shall ever be my study to demonstrate that

I am

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Grateful

Obedient & Devoted

Servant.

I think it proper to inclose Your Lordship the Extract herewith from the Records w^{ch}. being minuted upon a peice of Paper in my absence, occasioned it not being recorded in the order of time according to its date & was not therefore transmitted with the Copy of my Proceedings last Winter —

To the Right Honourable

The EARL OF HALIFAX &c. &c.

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

*L. S.*¹

Albany 16th: September 1756.

SIR

I had between twelve and one this morning, the pleasure of yours of the 15th., for which I am very much obliged to You;— On this Intelligence, I have made an entire new disposition of the Troops, on your side the Country; I have ordered down here, M. G. Webb, with the 44th Regiment; I have left all the other Troops there; and in place of building a Fort at the German Flatts, I leave 220 Men, to defend the Fort at Herkermers, and his House against flying Posts:

And I leave Major Dobbs people, at the little Carrying Place; the Militia and Captain Richmonds Company, at Canajahora;— Gates Company at Fort Hunter; Cap^t: Wraxals' Company at

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

your House; and the remains of Col: Schuyler's Regiment at Schenectady.

I bring down the Artillery, as being useless there; and except it is Scalping parties, I hope they will have no trouble on this side, if their Intelligence holds true, of their making their push from Crown Point, to which place I am pushing up, all the Force I can Muster, and shall I hope, in a few days, get up about 300 Men; and propose to be at Fort Edward myself, which I think the most liable to an Attack, and by that shall be able to reinforce Fort William Henry.

On this occasion it will be necessary, to Muster all the Indians You can, to attend Us both, and to get us Intelligence, and prevent our being hemmed in by the Enemy's Indians; they will have the assistance of our Ranging Companys.

The Indian Presents shall be sent You directly, but I have not had time today, to give orders about them.

I ever am most faithfully,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant.

LOUDOUN

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart.

JOHNSON'S JOURNAL

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:171-200, is printed a journal of Johnson's proceedings with different Indian nations at Fort Johnson and German Flats from July 21st to September 17th.

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

L. S.¹*Albany 19th: September 1756.*

SIR

In my Letter to you, of the 16th., I forgot to mention Mr. Crogan, who has been with me some days, with a proposal of raising Recruits; I should have been glad, to have had a Letter from you along with him, recommending him to me, as it cannot be supposed, I can know his character so well as You do; and you may remember, what passed between us on that Subject, at a former Meeting; His Proposal goes further, than I doubt I dare go; I imagine it will be better for him, to be employed in Indian affairs, which I imagine, will not be difficult to bring about, with your Concurrence, and which we shall settle, when I have the Pleasure of seeing you.—I have sent Mr. Crogan, about dividing the Indian Presents, in order to forward them to You directly; the remainder is lodged at Mr. Stevenson's, to be ready to be sent, as you demand them; as I imagine, you would not chuse to have the whole in your House at once, for fear of accidents.

I have in Consequence of your Letter of the 17th., given the strictest Orders, not only to the Troops, (in relation to giving Liquor to the Indians,) under the severest penalties, but have published the same, to the People of the Town, by the beat of Drum, with which the Magistrates sent two Constables, and their Cryer, to publish the same in their Names likewise; and I have assured them, that if any of them do offend, I will banish them from the Army.

I ever am most faithfully,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant.

LOUDOUN

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart.

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

TO LORD LOUDOUN

L. S.¹*Fort Johnson September 26th. [1756.]*

This moment arrived here Tüyaguande Head Warrior of the Onondaga Nation who left Montreal the 26th. of last month and his own Castle three days ago. and gives the following Account.

He says that Severall of the Seneca Sachings were arrived at Onondaga and waited for the Cajugas, who were hourly expected, then they were all to sett of together for my House agreeable to the Invitation, or call, I gave them when I was at the German Flatts. Captain Butler with the Mohawk deliver'd his Message there, and proceeded to the Seneca & Cajuga Nation to bring down their Young men.—

That He and the Delegates who were sent to Canada by the whole Confedracey mett the First Division of the French Army going to Oswego at their Encampment by the Lake Side at a place call'd by the Indians Ca'na'dun'ta, which I suppose to be opposite Isle Galot.² they afterwards met the French Gen^l. who brought up the last Division, He says he's a Young man. The Delagates told him they were going to speak with their friends living in Canada, and try to get them from thence to which he answer'd that He had nothing to do with it, but advis'd them to go to Montreal & Speak with the Gov^r. there about it. The General told them they were wrong in not going to Canada sooner, as the Gov^r. had Calld them so offten & as Early as last Spring. but their not attending his call, was partly the reason of his going to Attack Oswego, As it was Suppos'd by him, the Six Nations were indifferent about Oswego, hearing so often of his Intentions to take it, and would not come down to prevent it. That he was Determin'd to have a fair Tryall for it in a few days, and should he meet with a Repulse it would not discourage him, he would try a second, & a Third time before the fall of the Leaf,

This Indian says, he and the rest of his Company were at Montreal when the French return'd from Oswego with the

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5. 47, London, England.

² Galloo island.

Prisoners, and had an Opportunity of seeing them all as they landed particularly the Officers among whom he knew Col^o. Peter Schyler— He spoke with one John Newkirk who was Interpreter for Colonel Mercer at Oswego and was taken prisoner with the Rest, said Newkirk is given to a Scawendadey Indian, who is very kind to him as he writes to his Father, I have seen the letter it is dated the 25th. of August but does not Contain one Word of News This Newkirk desired the Indian who brought the letter, to tell me that the Garrison, behaved monstreously ill, that the Officers were dejected, and the men all Drunk haveing knock'd the heads out of Several Casks of Rum, and drank of it till they were all as Drunk as Beasts, Colonel Mercer, One of the Gunners, & Eight men more were all that was kill'd on our side, & but three of the French, one of whom was kill'd by a French Indian Accidentally The Delegates from Onondaga prevail'd on ten of their Nation to leave Canada & are come to Onondaga, they could not perswade the rest to leave the French.— Provisions very plenty in Canada the Provisions taken at Oswego, also the Cannon are left at Cadaraghui, & Niagara, He says he Could not think the French had any design this way, for their Force is all gone towards lake George, They were Continually marching that way from Montreal (both French & Indians) before he left it, Very few men left at Montreal, or Niagara as he heard, none at Swegatch'y except a few Indians who did not incline to Join the French, there is no Fortification there at all, at Cadaraghui they are enlarging the Fort making it very strong, and have above three hundred of the English Prisoners at Work, making a Trench round it mostly through a Rock, this Indian says that there is not a Man to be seen at any of their late Encampments along the lake they had Thrown up a kind of a Picketed Fort at Canundunta alias Isle Galott or opposite to it, But have left it. and are all gone to Canada since the Demolition of Oswego. He further says that he found some Cajuga Indians at Oswego who told him and the rest of his party, that they Came there to see whether the French had return'd, and while there, saw Six Vessells returning from Niagara, two of which came to Oswego, to see whether the English were come

there, finding none they fired severall Cannon on Board & so sail'd for Cadaraghqui.

He Further says that all the Caghnawageys, and every other Nation in Canada also a great Number of Ottawaés &c^a. are gone towards Lake George and he Imagines They will be ready to make an Attempt some where there about, by this time or very soon.

W^m. JOHNSON —

INDORSED: Indian Intelligence
from Sir W^m. Johnson
7ber 26th. 1756 —
in the E. of Loudoun's Letter
of Oct^r. 3^d. 1756.
m 31

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

L. S.¹

Albany, Oct 1st 1756

SIR

I receved the Inclosed docket from Sir Charles Hardy for you

As my letters to the Government are now near finished I propose Letters out from the Gov^{ts} on the 3^d I have heard no More of M^r Crogan so I suppose he has gone across the Country to Saratoga

All the American Reg^t are now March^t so that I hope our Neighbours will give over there Plan of making the attack tho the Prisoner M^r Kennedy brought in makes them very Numerous but adds that they are very Sickly

I ever am most faithfully

Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

LOUDOUN

To SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart.

¹ Destroyed by fire.

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES

Mar., 1755 to Oct., 1756

D. S.¹

1755		The Crown — Dr:		
Mar ^h . 30 th .	To Sloop Hire & Stores to New York on Gov ^r : Shirleys Earnest desire, desireing I would meet him there and Accompany him to Alexandria to meet General Brad-dock	£10.	14.	—
Ap ^l . 7 to May 4	To Expences on my Journey to and from Alexandria, also at York and by the way home.	39.	12.	—
	To Expences at a meeting with some Delawares at Philadelphia on the present Occasion.	1.	4.	6
from 4 to 8	To Expences of Horses Hire &ca. from York to Albany as I rid post	4.	10.	—
	To Liquor &ca given to some Coghnowageys whom I met at Albany on my return and examined them, found something worth sending the General	1.	6.	4
10	To a Meeting of the Mohawks held at my House on my return, when I told them the reason of the Troops passing thorough their Country & severall other things necessary	2.	15.	—
	To 6 Barrels of Pork, 4 D ^o : Beef, 2 Casks Rice, & 2 Cases of Pipes for the Ind ^s . bought by Cap ^t . Benthuyssen as ^{tho} his Account will appear, & freight to this place.	41.	14.	11

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.1067, London, England.

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

May	12	To a Meeting of some Onondagas who came to tell me some News concerning the proceedings of the French a prent amt ^g	£5.	17.	6
		To Provisions while at my House & on their Journey back	1.	7.	—
	14	To D ^o : to five Tuscaroras, & 1 Conajoharee family 2 days.	18.	10.	—
		To a Belt Wampum sent to Invite both Mohawk Castles to a Meeting.....	2.	8.	—
		To 3 Strings of Wampum sent to acquaint the Six Nations of the Troops going to reinforce Oswegoe Garrison, and to desire they might pass unmolested	1.	16.	—
	15	To sundrys given to 2 Onondaga Indians sent to Cadarchqui as Spies viz ^t : Cash for provisions, some Cloathing &ca on their Journey, Powder, Shott &ca.....	2.	15.	8
	16	To Expences attending a general Meeting of both Mohawk Castles at my House where they remained 3 Days with all their Familys. At this Meeting I stopped those from going to Canada who had actually promised their friends there to go.....	13.	19.	—
		To 3 Strings Wampum at said Meeting	1.	6.	—
		To a present of 2 Casks powdr: for support ^g . their familys awhile & 2 Bags Shott, as they complained much of the want of provisions.....	14.	10.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued
1755

May	17	To Abraham the Sachem a Gun 40/. & Cash 17/. to buy prov ^s :	£2.	17.	—
		To a Black Cloth, Shirt & Hose to Bury Guillian a principal Warrior	1.	11.	—
		To 2 Skipple Pease & 2 Ditto Oats for Seed to Aron whom I stopt from going to Canada.	—.	9.	—
		To a Belt q ^t . 2400 Wampum & Making to acquaint the Six Nations of my Appointment & to call them all down	3.	12.	—
		To a second Belt to make the Six Nations easy on the Troops going up to Oswegoe, sent both the above Belts by the Interpreter Clement	1.	5.	—
		To sundry Goods sent up by said Interpreter, & for Arent Ste- vens to pay the Ind ^s : running of Errands & for prov ^s : Lodg- ing &ca			
		1 doz Knives 11/. 4 } doz. Jews Harps } £1.15.— 18/. & 6 doz Rings } 6/.			
		2 Pr: Gimps 12/. 1 } M white Wampum } 1.18.— & 1 d ^o : Combs 6/. }			
		Cash to Clement on his Journey	—	8.—	
			4.	1.	—
	19	To Cloathing to Seth & his Wife the old Sachem of y ^e . Mohawks having lost his only Son, 2 black Blankets, 2 Shirts, 2 pr: Hose, a small Blanket & Stockings to their Grand Child, & some To- bacco &ca to the old Couple.	3.	7.	6.

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

May	20	To Lieut: Butler at his setting off w th : 4 Mohawks & Jn ^o . Wemp on their Journey w th : my Dispatches to Gen ^l : Brad- dock Cash £8. & sundrys at a Meeting on said Occasion 27/10	£9.	7.	10
		To W ^m : Printup Interpreter sent to call all the Ind ^s : living on the Susquehana to a Gen- eral Meeting at my House Cash 33/. 1 doz Hose 16/. 1 doz Combs 6/. 1 doz Knives 9/. & 1 P ^s . Gimps 7/.	3.	11.	—
	21	To Peter a French Ind ⁿ : whom I prevailed on to stay among us Cash to pay for Plowing his Land to plant Corn on &ca	6.	10.	—
		To a Shirt to a Squaw for a Child of hers verry Sick....	—.	4.	—
	22	To a Meeting of the Mohawk Castle, when they gave me three young Men to go to Crown Point as Scouts in Sundrys	1.	2.	6
		To Provisions for 4 Scouts to Crown Point....£1.15. 8			
		To a pair Shoes & a Lap for one who had none to put on	2.	3.	8
		To a Belt Wampum to W ^m : Printup to call y ^e . Susque- hana Ind ^s	1.	16.	—
	24	To a Cag Rum to the Mo- hawks to get their Fences made	—.	13.	6
		To Expences at two Meetings with a few Coghawageys at Albany in Cash &c.....	1.	5.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued
1755

May	24	To Scoharee Jn ^o : an Indian to } purchase Provisions. }	—.	4.	—
		To the following Goods bought for the Present given to the Six Nations & the Susquehana Ind ^s : &ca, & delivered them June 1755. viz ^t :—			
		Ti 16 P ^s : Strouds. } at £9 ① . . . } £144.—.—			
		8 D ^o : Blankets. . } 72.—.— 9 }			
		3 D ^o : Penniston.. 39.16.16			
		16 D ^o : Garlix. . . . 40.—.—			
		8 D ^o : Callicoe. . . . 26.—.—			
		16 D ^o : Callaman- } 24.—.— coe }			
		40 Large french } 32.—.— Blankets ..16/.. }			
		40 second Size. D ^o . } 20.—.— 10/. }			
		40 third Size. D ^o . } 16.—.— 8/. }			
		4 P ^s : flower'd } 20.—.— Serge fine. .£5.. }			
		3 M. Gun Flints } 5. 5.— 3/6 ① Ct: }			
		9 Ct. fine Holland } 08.—.— Gun Powder } £12 }			
		2 M. pound Lead } 45.—.— in small Barrs. . }			
		20 Rolls Gartering } 7.—.— 7/ }			
		40 P ^s : Gimps. .6/. 12.—.—			
		8 D o z. Looking } 12.—.— Glasses ..30/... }			
		40 ⁿ : Virmillion. 14/ 28.—.—			
		4 Ct: weight Brass } 60.—.— Kettles. .3/. ① ⁿ : }			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

May	24	24 Doz. Jews Harps	3.—.—		
		2/6			
		8 D ^o : Wo ^s : clockt	11. 4.—		
		Hose ..28/.....			
		10 D ^o : a size Smal-	9.10.—		
		ler ..19/.....			
		10 D ^o : long Knives	6.—.—		
		Sheathed. ..12/..			
		10 D ^o : large pistol	5.—.—		
		Capt D ^o ...10/...			
		30 D ^o : fine wrought	12.—.—		
		Pen D ^o ..8/.....			
		10 D ^o : Razors. 15/	7.10.—		
		4 G ^s : finest Ind ⁿ .	2.—.—		
		Awl Blades. 10/.			
		38 Doz. Hawks	4.15.—		
		Bells ..2½.....			
		20 D ^o : fine Buckle-	5.—.—		
		ing Combs..5/...			
		50 Frying Pans	12.10.—		
		sorted ..5/.....			
		10 Doz. Gill, & 20	8.10.—		
		Doz. ½ Gill Cups th			
		20 th : Brass Wire...	4.10.—		
		1 Case Pipes			
		£4.19..& 1 M.	21.12. 4		
		Weight Tobacco.			
		268 Dollars to the			
		severall Sachems	107. 4.—		
		with the private			
		presents			
		A private present as			
		Usual to all the			
		Sachems of 11			
		different Nations			
		after the Congress	155. 4.—		
		was over Viz ^t . a			
		Strowd, Shirt,			
		Lap &ca to each			
		amt ^s to 97 in all			
		is 32/. P.....			
			£1086.	10.	10

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued
1755

June	1 st .	To Seth the Scohare Sachem & his family in sundrys....	£1.	5.	—
		To 3 Oneida Warriors very great friends of mine whom I prevailed on to promise to Join me, a present to y ^e . Am ^t : of	5.	14.	10
	2	To the Mohawk Sachems to get their Land fenced 6 q ^{ts} : rum		7.	6
	3	To an Ind ⁿ : come from Canada, whom I prevailed on to stay here & Join me, his name is Teiyaharee a present amt ^g . to	1.	16.	8
		To another Ind ⁿ : & family whom I prevailed on to stay among the Mohawks, he having lived 16 years among the French & quite hearty in their Interest	1.	18.	10
		To an Ind ⁿ : Express sent after Lieut. Jn ^o . Butler with a Letter for Cap ^t . Orme....	—.	12.	—
	4, 5 & 6	To Expences going to lay out the 2 Forts for the 2 Mo- hawk Castles	2.	18.	—
		To 2 Barrels Beer of Hend ^k . Fry for the Conajoharees to drink the Kings Health....	1.	12.	—
		To 3 Ind ⁿ . Warriors from Oneida who promised their assistance	1.	16.	—
		To the 4 Outscouts returned from Crown Point last night who were out 14 days 3 of them @3/. & 1 at 4/. 7 ^d diem	9.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

June	8 To Prov ^s : for 6 Outscouts sent this day to Crown Point as Spies £2.14.— Powder, Lead, Flints, Pipes & Tobacco 10/.....	£3.	4.	—
	To Jacob Benthuyssen Skipper for bringing 4000 Dollars from Oliver DeLancey....	2.	—.	—
	9 To a parcell of Coghawagaes met in Albany whom I examined about the Mischief done at Hosack, & endeavour'd to sett them up against the Onagunga's who did it..	—.	17.	—
	10 To freight of 4000 Dollars to my House in a Waggon & Battoe	—.	9.	—
	11 To Hend ^k . & Abraham his Brother w th : their Familys who came down to my House in order to help me to Translate the Speech to the 6 Nations, Cash 20 Dollars 10 each & sundry trifling Articles besides 36/.....	9.	16.	—
	To Cash paid for Wampum at Albany for Belts as ⁹ receipts will appear.....	16.	11.	8
	12 To a Meeting of the Mohawks when I condoled the Death of a Chiefs Mother viz ^t : Lowrance 2 black Strowds, 2 pair black Hose & 2 Shirts	£3.	2.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued
1755

June 12	To Sundry other expences at- tending said Ceremony }	17. 6		
	To expences of sending up Pork & Beef 3 Barrels to Harkemars for the Ind ^s : & Riding over the Carrying Place }		£3. 19. 6	
	To an Express sent up to me with Letters Concerning the Coghnawagee Indians }		1. 14. 9	
15 & 16	To sundrys at a Meeting of all the Warriors & Sachems of the Mohawks on a Message sent them about the Ana- gunga's behaviour }		18. —. —	
	To a large Belt insisting on their Joining us against them should they Attempt at any time to commit Hostilities against the English }		2. 16. —	
	To a large Belt insisting on their Joining us against them should they Attempt at any time to commit Hostilities against the English }		3. 18. 6	
	To young Seth a noted Warrior a fine Shirt 20/. a Pair of Hose & Ribbond 10/. }		1. 10. —	
17	To 2 large Oxen bought of Matthews for y ^e : Ind ^s . at the Interview }		12. —. —	
20	To 2 Ditto. . of Dan ^l . Campbell for D ^o }		8. —. —	
	To 29 th : Powder Saluteing all the Ind ^s : as they came }		3. 12. 6	
	To Expences paid at Cherry Valley for the Aghquageys Delawares Tuscaroras &ca, as th Acc ^{ts} . delivered me by W ^m : Printup Interpreter . . . }		7. 2. —	
	To 1 Ox of John Potman		3. 10. —	
21	To 1 Bull of Mr: Ferrall		3. 15. —	
	To 1 Ox of Johannes Quack . .		3. 10. —	

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

June	21	To Alliday a Squaw for a fatt Cow for the Mohawks....	£5.	—.	—
		To 11 New fine Belts some very large all for the Speeches	34.	—.	—
		To making of them.....	2.	16.	—
		To 6 large Strings Wampum on said & other Occasions..	3.	12.	—
	23	To 1 Ox of Hannis Apple....	2.	10.	—
		To 1 D ^o : of Ury Adam Dog- steader	4.	10.	—
		To 1 D ^o : & 1 Bull of Douw Funda	7.	10.	—
		To 1 Bull of Peter Conin.....	3.	10.	—
		To 1 Ox of Nicholas Gardi- neer	4.	10.	—
	24	To 5¼ Ct: Biscake at 18/. 7 ^d of Garret Lansingh	4.	14.	6
		To 1 Bull of Clement.....	3.	—.	—
		To 6 Doz. Jews Harps to some of the Warriors.....	1.	4.	—
		To what paid 3 Conajoharees for 16 Days being on the Scout to Crown Point.....	7.	4.	—
		To 3 white Men who were with them all the time.....	9.	12.	—
		To 12 loaves Bread of Thomas Harris Wife	—.	9.	—
	26	To 69 D ^o D ^o . 51/9 & 20 white D ^o . 20/. of Douw Funda	3.	11.	9
		To Cash to the Chief Tusca- rora Sachem to buy a Cow for his family.....	4.	—.	—
	27	To Ribbond for the new made Sachems Meddals	—.	18.	—
		To a Flag to a Tuscarora Sachem	3.	10.	—
		To a pair Pumps & Buckles to the Chief Onondaga.....	—.	12.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued
1755

June	27	To 85 Loaves Bread 63/9. 1			
		Ox & 1 Bull £7.12.— of	£10.	15.	9
		Hanchy Vedder			
		To 1 Ox of Clause De Graafe.	4.	10.	—
		To 2 Oxen of Peter Wormwood	10.	—.	—
		To 1 Dollar gave Aron the			
		Mohawk on promisg. to go	—.	8.	—
		with. us			
	28	To 1 Bull of William Hall. . . .	3.	5.	—
		To 300 Bushels of Ind ⁿ : Corn			
		from Kelly & Colden for the	41.	5.	—
		Ind ^s :			
		To Expences attending it to			
		Albany, & from thence here.	16.	10.	8
		To an Express from York &ca			
		for Expences	—.	14.	—
		To Hay Land, Pasture, Grain			
		Fences &ca destroyed, makg.			
		Hutts, fetching Timber for	45.	15.	—
		Seats Council House &ca. . .			
		To 2 Oxen of Isack Wemp. . . .	7.	10.	—
		To 6 Barrels of Beer & Car-			
		riage of it to my House for	4.	3.	6
		y ^e . Meetg.			
		To 12 D ^o : Pork & freight up			
		here	43.	4.	—
		To 20 Ct: Bread of Cornel ^s :			
		Cuyler @ 18/. ☞ Casks,	22.	2.	6
		packg. & freight.			
		To 1 Hogh ^d : Tobacco £4.12.			
		— & a Case of Pipes &	10.	18.	—
		freight			
		To 2 Barrels Rum from Sche-			
		nectady £13.4— & freight. .	13.	16.	—
		To 1 D ^o . D ^o : £6.12.— & 42			
		Gall ^s . of Mr. Ferrall £8.8. .	15.	—.	—
	29	To Tea & Sugar &ca for some			
		of the Chief Familys 14			
		days, & for makg. Punch for	5.	17.	6
		the many meetings of the dif-			
		ferent Nations 56 th : Sugar. .			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

June	29	To 5 Bottles Claret at the War Dance & sundy. other things requisite	£1.	6.	—
	30	To 2 Fatt Cattle of my own . . .	7.	7.	—
		To W ^m : Tarachioris a Conajoharee Sachem 2 Dollars . .	—.	16.	—
		To Cechcoana a Mohawk Sachem — 1 D ^o	—.	8.	—
		To a Fatt Ox of Hance Prime of the Mohawks	4.	—.	—
		To a p ^r : Ind ⁿ : Shooes to young Brant a Sachem	—.	4.	—
		To 1 Cow of Paulus the Ind ⁿ : for the five Nations comg. down	4.	—.	—
		To 2 Oxen of Hanlbey Acre . .	10.	—.	—
		To 3 Ruffled Shirts for 3 young Sachems	1.	16.	—
		To 2 Oxen of John Glasford . .	12.	—.	—
July	1	To 1 Cow of Jacob Potman . . .	4.	—.	—
		To sundy. Expences bringing down the Six Nations as th Acc ^{tt} : delivered me by the Interpreter will appear	48.	12.	—
		To a Deer Skin to an Oneida Old Chief & Cash	—.	15.	—
		To a Cow of a Squaw for the Mohawks	5.	—.	—
	2	To 1 Ox of W ^m : Allen £4 — & 3 Oxen of Albert Vandewerkey	16.	—.	—
		To 1 Cow of Jn ^o . Matthews £5 — & 2 Oxen of Dan ^l : Campbell	15.	—.	—
		To 1 Gold Laced Hatt to a Mohawk head Warrior . . .	4.	10.	—
		To Seth Chief Sachem of y ^e . Schoharee Ind ^s : Cash for Prov ^s :	1.	4.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	2	To 5 hands w th : Battoes Carryg. up Ind ⁿ . Corn for the Ind ^s	£3.	10.	—
		To 15 ^b .—25 th Biscake of Garrei Lansing & freight here.	14.	14.	2½
		To Jn ^o . of Conajoharee a principal Warrior Cash.	—.	10.	—
	3 ^d .	To Peter Conin Smith for mending Guns, Axes, Hatchets &ca, as ~~an~~ Account.	28.	5.	6
		To an Express paid who came with Letters.	—.	13.	6
		To a Gold Locket to the Chief Onondaga Sachem 24/. & a Coat	7.	4.	—
		To a Bridle & Halter to an Oneida Sachem who lost his	—.	9.	—
		To an Oneida Family going home to buy bread on their Journey	—.	8.	—
		To an Ox.	4.	—.	—
		To sundry Familys on their return homewards to maintain them Cash.	16.	—.	—
		To a Scarlet Coat well Lined to an Ind ⁿ : Chief & a Spear.	4.	10.	—
		To an Oneida Chief to buy a Battoe at Oswegoe in order to remove his Family from the French Settlement at Swegatchie Cash 24/. & a Present 32/.	2.	16.	—
		To a Tuscarora Sachem I made now who promised well Cash	1.	4.	—
	5	To the Mississagey Delegate a present in Sund ^s : Amounting to	6.	18.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	5	To a Belt & String of Wampum sent to his Nation to Join us as Brothers.....	£3.	17.	6
		To a Gun to the Red Head 36/ & Cash £4.....	5.	16.	—
		To 2 Sheep & a Hog given to the Mohawks when y ^e . Conajoh ^s : came to Condole the Death of Gilliane a head Warrior who died.....	2.	14.	—
		To Nickus Brants son to finish his House before he could go	4.	—.	—
		To 2 fatt Cattle killed for the 5 Nations at Conajoh ^{ee} : com ^g . down.....	9.	—.	—
		To a Hog &c for a Meal for the Conajoharees who stayed a day.....	2.	5.	—
		To a black Belt bought of a Squaw to serve an Occasion.	2.	—.	—
		To Boards for their Houses dureing the Conference damaged	6.	18.	—
		To 108 Loaves Bread.....	5.	8.	—
		To 11 Mens & 1 Boys ruffled Shirts of Mr: Ferrall.....	5.	14.	—
		To 65 Skipple Pease at the Grand Conference @ 3/6 £	11.	7.	6
		To 109 D ^o : Indian Corn & Meal at D ^o .—2/6	13.	2.	6
	9	To Expences Maintaing a number of different Ind ^s : at Albany	8.	15.	—
		To 6 Waggon's Carrying some sick and Old Indians from Albany to Schenectady &ca.	2.	14.	—
		To a Box for a Pacquet to Gen ^l : Braddock & freight to York	—.	4.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	5	To Cash to John Wemp an Express sent to Gen ^l : Braddock with the Indians 40 Days at 8/. £	£16.	—.	—
		To 4 Strings Wampum sent to acquaint the Ind ^s : of General Braddocks Success which was the first Acc ^t :.....	—.	16.	—
		To an Oneida Sachem come to Albany w th . some News to me	2.	15.	—
		To 2 Mohawks returned from the River Indians to whom I sent an Invitation to come & Join us.....	4.	17.	—
		To Hooping &ca Powder.....	—.	6.	—
		To a Battoe to Caiyougas, Oneidas & Onondagas to carry their Sick.....	4.	—.	—
	17	To 3 Strings Wampum sent to stop 2 familys of Mohawks whom I heard were going away to Canada, & a dollar to y ^e . Express.....	1.	5.	—
	18	To a full Meeting of the Conajoharee Castle when they declared their resolution of Joining us to a Man, a present Amt ^g . to.....	14.	16.	10
		To Mending 3 Guns at Sandfords	—.	3.	—
	19	To 1 Ox of Hend ^k : Phillips for the Caiyougas, Onondagas &ca.....	4.	10.	—
		To an Ind ⁿ : who came down w th : dispatches from Cap ^t : Bradstreet	3.	19.	8
		To a Scoharee Ind ⁿ : who came to know when I would want them to Join us.....	1.	18.	10

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	20	To a Belt sent to the Six Nations to call their Warriors down	£3.	15.	—
		To another Belt to call the Aghquagey, Schoharee & Southern Ind ^s . down.....	2.	18.	—
		To the 4 Ind ^s . whom I sent Express to Gen ^l : Braddock for 40 days.....	24.	—.	—
		To the Interpreter whom I sent to Scoharee w th . a Message, Expences	—.	18.	—
		To a Kettle for the Outscouts 14/. & Prov ^s : for 3 Ind ^s : 10 days 30/.....	2.	4.	—
		To sundy. exp ^s : attending the Interpreters Journey with the Aghquageys to the Lake Atsegy where he divided some Corn between them...	1.	1.	6
		To rideing D ^o : 3 Loads w th . a Waggon to the Lake @ 32/. ₤.....	4.	16.	—
		To sund ^s : supplied by Hend ^k . Fry to the 6 Nations going up	7.	2.	—
		To a Pistol I gave to Abraham Isacks Son.....	1.	4.	—
21		To 4 young Ind ^s : sent up with Capt ^s : Stoddert & Stevens to call down the Warriors of the 6 Nations 3 Strowds, 3 Shirts 3 Laps, 3 Pr: Hose, 3 Pr: Shooes, 3 Combs, Paint, Powder Lead & Provisions	7.	10.	—
		To the 2 Officers who go with them travelling Money 6 Dollars	2.	8.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	21	To a Seneca Chief Warrior who goes along to bring his Men down a Scarlet Blan- ket, french Stockings, Shirt, Lap Powder, Lead &ca...	£4.	15.	—
		To 2250 white Wampum sent by Cap ^{ts} : Stoddert & Stevens for sundry uses.....	2.	11.	—
		To 2 M. black D ^o : to D ^o : for sundry uses among the 6 Nations	3.	—.	—
		To Cash to them both to buy Provisions for their War Dances in the Castles.....	10.	—.	—
		To Ottrowana Chief Caiyouga Sachem for his good Offices in getting a number of Men.	9.	16.	—
		To his Son in law who Com- mands that Party a present.	8.	17.	—
	22	To a black Strowd 30/. 2 P ^r . black Hose 12/. 2 Shirts 16/. & 2 Strings Wampum sent by Stoddert & Stevens to Condole the death of 2 Ind ^s : one Onondaga & One Oneida	4.	18.	—
		To Peter a french Ind ⁿ . whom I turned from the French Interest and Joined us.....	1.	4.	—
		To a large Belt Wampum sent to Canada this Day to Invite the Coghawageys here, or at least to be Neuter & not Join the French, the Scawen- dadies also	3.	16.	—
		To a present to the 4 Ind ^s : whom I sent w th : y ^e . Mes- sage in sundrys.....	8.	3.	—
		To 2 fatt Sheep to the upper Nations in their going up to fetch their Men.....	1.	10.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	22	To 20 Loaves Bread 2 ⁰ / ₆ . 4	} £1. 13. 6		
		Sk. Meal. 10/. & 1 Skipple			
		Pease 3/6.			
		To Cash for Prov ^s : by the way	} 2. 8. —		
		home for y ^e . above Ind ^s : &			
		familys			
		To a large P ^s : Saddle Lace for	} 1. 6. —		
		binding for their Blankets..			
		To 10 Dollars & a String of			
		Wampum to Cap ^t : Mc:Ginn	} 4. 16. —		
		to fetch down the Oneidas..			
		To the Interpreter for a Coffin			
		&ca to Bury a Squaw killed	} —. 12. —		
		by Lightening at Schenec-			
		tady			
		To a Bull to the Mohawks & 3	} 6. 5. —		
		Barrels of Beer for a War			
		Dance at their Castle.....			
		To Sundrys supplied by the	} 5. 16. 9		
		Harkemar to the Six Nations			
		on my Order going up.....			
		To Gun Smith & Black Smiths	} 11. 14. —		
		Acc ^t . for mendg: the Ind ^s :			
		Guns &ca, as Φ Justice V			
		Eps Acc ^t : will appear....	} 2. 8. —		
		To 2 Meddals.....			
		To 5 Coarse Hatts to those sent			
		to the Coghnewageys with a	} 1. 5. —		
		Message			
		To the following Goods given to			
		the Ind ^s . who Joined our Arms			
		& were in the Engagement at			
		Lake George viz ^t .			
		269 Strowd Blankets			
		@ 15/. Φ.....£201.15.—			
		42 French D ^o . 16/. 33.12.—			
		310 Laps.. 4/..... 62.—.—			
		96 Pair french Stock-} 43. 4.—			
		ings ..9/.....}			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	22	15	6	D ^o white.....	}	37. 1.—		
				D ^o 4/9				
				To 2 C ^t : Leather for	}	50.—.—		
				Shooes ..5/.....				
				To 1 M. Gun Flints	}	2.—.—		
				4/. ₤ C ^t				
				To 88 Shirts some	}	39.12.—		
				Ruffled ..9/.....				
				To 16 Pr: Shooes	}	3. 4.—		
				made ..4/.....				
				To 56 th : Shott.....		1. 5.—		
				To 10 Rolls Gar-	}	4.—.—		
				tering for the				
				Ind ^s . Heads....				
				To 3 Groce Indian	}	1.10.—		
				Awl Blades.....				
				To 48 Pair Pennis-	}	11. 8.—		
				ton Hose..4/9...				
				To 14 P ^s : red &	}	18. 4.—		
				green Saddle				
				Lace for Strowds				
				To 10 D ^o : Narrow	}	3.—.—		
				Gimps ..6/.....				
				To 250 Dollars left	}	100.—.—		
				with Mr. Ferrall				
				to pay for Guns.				
				To 7 C ^t : Gun Pow-	}	101.—.—		
				der at £14.—. ₤				
				& freight.....				
				To 302 Guns &	}	452.15.—		
				freight to my				
				House				
				To 40 Silver Gor-	}	42.—.—		
				gets @ 21/. ₤				
				for Chief War-				
				riors				
				To 9 Doz. Knives..		4. 1.—		
				To 3 D ^o : Looking	}	4. 3.—		
				Glasses				

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	22	To 14 Ct: Lead @ 50/.....	35. —. —			
		To 47 th : Virmillion 12/.....	28. 4. —			
		To 12 Doz. Cutlashes & freight.....	37. —. —			
		To 44 Knives.....	1. 11. 11			
		To 12 P ^s : 3/4 Garlix	30. 5. —			
		To 6 P ^s : D ^o :.....	16. 13. 9			
		To making & thread for 180 Shirts out of the above 18 P ^s : at 8 ^d ₤	6. —. —	£1370.	8.	8
	23	To the Conajoharees to buy an Ox & Beer for a War Dance 'ere they leave their Castle 18 Dollars.....		7.	4.	—
		To Sundrys of Hannis Lawyer of Scoharee for the Express sent to Aghquagey.....		2.	5.	--
		To 1 Cow of William Allen for the Warriors		4.	—.	—
		To Cash to 2 Mohawk Expresses sent to call the Minisick Indians to Join.....		3.	4.	—
		To Exp ^s : at Schenectady & Albany of a parcell of Ind ^s . came w th : me.....		6.	15.	—
	27	To Cash to 3 Scoharee Ind ^s : on their Journey home in order to Join y ^e . rest.....		1.	4.	—
		To D ^o : to 2 Ind ^s : on their Return home from near Esopus to call Indians.....		2.	17.	—
		To Cash to 3 Mohawk Ind ^s : sent to Westen Hook to call y ^m . Ind ^s :.....		5.	14.	6
		To Sundrys sent to Oswego for a present to the Western Tribes				

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued
1755

		of Indians, also some Goods delivered there to Cap ^t : Bradstreet	
July	27 3	P ^s : Strowds of mine in Cap ^t : Mills hands at Oswegoe left there by Stoddert at £10. ~~7~~	£30.—.—
	16	P ^s : Gimps £5.4— & 200 Flints 5...	5. 9.—
	2½	doz. Indian Awl Blades	— 1. 11
	11	Small Indian Hoes	1. 7. 6
	5	Kettles W ^t : 39 ^{lb} ..	6. 16. 6
	21¾	Yards loose Strowds	9. 10.—
		Sund ^s : paid by Cap ^t : Stoddert to sund ^y . Indians employed by Cap ^t : Bradstreet at Oswegoe....	4. 5.—
		Sent up now with my Battoe	
	8	p ^s : Strowds...@ £9- ~~7~~	72.—.—
	2	D ^o : Blankets....	18.—.—
	1	D ^o : Penniston 94 yards ..3/.....	14. 2.—
	2	D ^o : red Duffils 94 D ^o . ..5/.....	23. 10.—
	1	D ^o : yellow half thicks 39 D ^o ..3/..	5. 17.—
	20	D ^o : Callamancoe 30/.....	30.—.—
	4	D ^o : Callicoe.65/.	13.—.—
	2	D ^o : Chints..60/.	6.—.—
	3	D ^o : flower'd Serge & striped flannel 100 yds 3/.....	15.—.—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	27	1 Ct: good Gun	12.—.—		
		Powder			
	2	D°: Lead and Bul-	5.—.—		
		lets			
	4	Doz. Womens yarn	5.12.—		
		Hose Clockt. 28/.			
	4	D°: Youths D°.	3.16.—		
		19/			
	2	D°: D°: smaller	1.14.—		
		17/			
	2	D°: D°: 1 at	1.15.—		
		22/. & 1 at 13/..			
	1	D°: fine double	2. 8.—		
		Cotton Caps.....			
	2	D°: Worsted D°.	3.12.—		
	1	Groce brass			
		wrought Pen	4.16.—		
		Knives			
	11	Large Blankets @	4.19.—		
		9/			
	5	D° ..8/.....	2.—.—		
	7	D° ..6/.....	2. 2.—		
	9	Quart Tankards	3. 3.—		
		7/			
	4	Pint D°...4/6...	—:18.—		
	12	Quart Tea Potts	4. 4.—		
		7/			
	10	Pint D°..4/6....	2. 5.—		
	6	Basons of 3 th :Each	1.16.—		
		is 18 th ...2/.....			
	6	D° 2 th ...12 th .2/.	1. 4.—		
	6	D° 1 th ... 6 th .2/.	—:12.—		
	2	doz. Porrengers @	1.16.—		
		18/ ④.....			
	2½	d°: Gill Cups.9/.	1. 2. 6		
	5	d°: ½ Gill D°:..4/6	1. 2. 6		
	15½ th	Brass Wire.4/8.	3.12. 4		
	59½ th	Kettles..3/....	8.18. 6		
	13	short handle Frying	1.19.—		
		Pans ..3/.....			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	27	5 long D°. D°. 4/	1.—.—			
		1 P ^s : Purple Rat- teen 24 yds. 12/6.	15.—.—			
		Hire of Men w th . a Battoe to carry up said Goods to Oswegoe....	10.—.—			
		Hire of the Battoe, Tools, Prov ^s : Ridg ^s : &ca.....	9.10.—	£372.	15.	9
	28	To 8 ¹ / ₄ th Vermillion from Peter Groenendike as Φ Stevens Acc ^t :...18/. Φ		7.	8.	6
		To 1 P ^s : Welch Cottons 103 Yards		16.	4.	9
		To 5 P ^s : Strowds.....		45.	—.	—
		To 6 D°: $\frac{3}{4}$ Garlix £16.5 & 3 Ells broad Muslin. 21/.		17.	6.	—
		To 6 doz Knives 2.14. & 4 Rolls Gartering..28/.....		4.	2.	—
		To 1 P ^s : Ribbond. 16 & 3. Q 14 th Lead ..40/3.....		2.	16.	3
		To 2 Ind ^s : Principal Warriors 2 Hatts one Oneida & one Tuscarora		1.	16.	—
		To 180 th Leather for Shooes at 5/. Φ £45. & 1 P ^s : Red Strowds £9.....		54.	—.	—
		To 3 th Paint 42/. & 5 Wag- gons com ^g . down to Albany w th : y ^e . fighters.....		4.	7.	—
		To 1 Gorget to a head Warrior 26/. & 1 Looking Glass 3/.		1.	9.	—
		To 326 th : Kettles..3/6 Φ		57.	1.	—
		To 3 Looking Glasses 7/6 & 3 french Blankets..48/.....		2.	15.	6
		To Making 64 Shirts & thread 42/. & 60 Spears £9.....		11.	2.	0
		To Clement for Charges of the Indians		1.	13.	6

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

July	27	To Joachim a River Indian 3 } Dollars }	£1.	4.	—
		To 4 Doz. Looking Glasses, } 4 Doz. Knives & 2 th Paint.. }	8.	17.	—
		To Rideing Indians from Sche- } nectady }	—.	9.	—
		To Cash paid for rideing Axes } 6 ^d , & Indian Awls..3/..... }	—.	3.	6
		To mending a Hanger for an } Indian }	—.	3.	—
		To freight of 500 th Gun Pow- } der & Cutlashes P ^d : Ten } Eyke for..... }	1.	4.	—
Aug st :	1	To the Wife of (Paulus who } is gone to Coghawagey Ex- } press) }	—.	8.	—
		To 3 Mohawks returned from } Crown Point w th . Intel- } ligence }	7.	18.	—
	2	To 6 Waggon's come down } with the Baggage &ca of 37 } Mohawk Warriors..... }	2.	14.	—
		To sundy. Expences attended } some Ind ^s : in Schenectady as } Ⓟ the Interpreters Account- }	2.	16.	—
	6	To Pat ^k : Clark for going Ex- } press to New York for Paint } &ca }	4.	15.	4
		To Dan ^l : Bradt for D ^o .—D ^o . } to the Manor for Cattle.... }	—.	15.	—
	7	To Barnt Ten Eyke for 32 } Ind ⁿ : Blankets @ 9/. Ⓟ.... }	14.	8.	—
		To Hance Douw for a Shirt } for an Ind ⁿ : 6/. & 9 th : } Virmillion £6. 12..... }	6.	18.	—
		To Cash to a River Indian in } lieu of a Gun..... }	1.	12.	—
		To Edward Williams for Beer } for the Fighters..... }	1.	9.	4
		To Jacob Cooper for Bread for } D ^o }	—.	13.	7

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Aug st :	7	To Seth of Scoharee a principal Sachem 15 Dollars.....	£6.	—.	—
		To Lukas Yates for Plates and small Spikes 2/6 & ridg: sundy. Stores.....	1.	1.	6
		To David Vanderheyden for 26 th : Buck Shott, & 4 ¹ / ₂ th brass Wire	5.	11.	3
		To Simon Vedder for 3 P ^s : Blankets	27.	—.	—
		To 56 th : Leather from Harmanus Schuyler @ 5/. ₤ ..	14.	—.	—
		To 24 th : Virmillion from York £15.18.— & 2 Sheep Skin Bags 4/	16.	2.	—
		To 232 Boxes for Paint from D ^o .	—.	16.	6
		To Cap ^t : Switts for bringing a Pacquet from York.....	—.	2.	—
		To Express with Dispatches for Board of Trade.....	4.	—.	—
		To Cash paid Cap ^t : Ferrall for Expences attending the bringg. down 40 Mohawk Warriors to Albany £6.5.— and Feathers for D ^{os} : Heads 2/6	6.	7.	6
		To 2 Dollars, paid by D ^o : for some Goods in pawn in Schenectady belonging to an Indian	—.	16.	—
		To 150 Dollars sent by Cap ^t : Ferrall to pay Ind ^s : who have Guns &ca of their own. }	60.	—.	—
		To Moses & Boy Dollars for a Gun, Hanger & Knives.... }	2.	8.	—
		To an Old Squaw who sent 2 Sons with me..... }	1.	16.	—
		To 5 Indians instead of Hangers, Cash	2.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Aug st :	7	To 6 .. D ^o D ^o			
		D ^o D ^o	£1.	18.	—
		To Cartage & Sloopage 26/8			
		& silver Smiths Bill £66.18.	68.	4.	8
		To the Butchers Bill for Indians.	11.	14.	8½
		To 2 Pistols 64/. & to Cornelius			
		the Ind ^s : Son 20/.....	4.	4.	—
	8	To 2 Indians for their Familys..	2.	—.	—
		To a Gun & a Pistol of Garret			
		Lansing	5.	10.	—
		To little Hendricks Son in lieu of			
		a Gun	1.	12.	—
		To 3 Indians .. D ^o : of Hang-			
		ers Cash	—.	18.	—
		To 4 .. D ^o : D ^o : of Axes			
		 D ^o	—.	8.	—
		To Cash ₤ Arent Stevens for			
		Mr: Ferral to pay Ind ^s : who	100.	—.	—
		had Guns &ca of their own.			
		To Hance Ury of Scoharee &			
		2 others Cash	1.	16.	—
		To Staats Santford Gunsmith			
		as ₤ Account.....	5.	3.	11
		To 3 Mohawks sent to me			
		Express	3.	6.	—
		To Arent Stevens for defraying			
		the Expence of Ind ^s : in my	20.	—.	—
		Absence			
		To Marselis for freight of			
		Sundrys	3.	15.	—
	10	To Robert Lottridge for the			
		Ind ^s : Expences at his House.	87.	1.	1
		To a Cow of Hannis Smith at			
		Half Moon	5.	—.	—
		To a Calf at Saraghtoga for			
		the Ind ^s :	—.	10.	—
		To an Ox at the Flatts for..D ^o	5.	5.	—
		To Postage of Letters.....	3.	1.	2
		To Express to Philadelphia for			
		General Braddock	4.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Aug st : 10	To Benjamin Williams for Cattle on our way up to the Carrying Place	£14.	—.	—
	To freight of £500. 15. 3 sent me by Jn ^o . Watts Esq ^r ., p ^d . Pryme	—.	12.	—
20	To Battoe Men from Albany to the Carrying Place with Indian Stores &ca.	20.	16.	—
	To Bernadus Harsen for Smith Work as $\pounds$ Account.	2.	8.	6
	To 12 fatt Sheep for the Warriors who followed me to the Lake	8.	8.	—
	To 45 Bottles Wine at their War Dance before they sett off	6.	15.	—
	To 244 Loaves Bread £12. 4. — & 5 Skipple Flower 25/.	13.	9.	—
	To 20 yds Scarlet Shalloon for Colours or signs in the Woods	4.	—.	—
	To 34 Gall ^s : Rum & freight £7. 6. & 3 yds flannel 10/.	7.	16.	—
	To 292 th Ball cost £7. 6. — & 1 Mutton for a small Party	8.	—.	—
	To 1 Ox £4. 15. — 13 Knives 13/. & 6 Pair Hose 30/	6.	18.	—
	To 3½ doz Awls 2/6. 2 Ells Dowlass 5/. & a Gun I Redeem'd 21/.	1.	8.	6
	To 148 th : Leather to Squaws & Child ⁿ : in the Absence of their Men	37.	—.	—
29	To Benjamin Williams Butcher as $\pounds$ Recp ^t : for fatt Cattle Killed for the Indians on their March to Lake George.	31.	10.	—
31	To an Onondaga Chief Cash in lieu of a Gorget.	1.	12.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Sept ^r :	3	To some Mohawk Squaws return'd from the Lake, for Prov ^s :	£2.	8.	—
		To David Vanderheyden for 5 P ^s : Blankets	£45.	—.	—
		To 1 P ^s : Cottons q ^t . 90 yds 3/. P & 9 doz. long knives	16.	4.	—
		To 14 th Vermillion @ 15/. P & 20 th : Red Lead 25/.	11.	6.	3
		To 2 Packs Deer Leath W ^t : 131 th : .. 4/3.	27.	16.	9
		To 61 th : Kettles 3/	9.	3.	
		To Waggon Hire hither with the Indian Goods	109.	10.	—
		To Bunts Son an Onondaga in lieu of a Gun 4 Dollars....	3.	12.	—
		To David a Scoharee Ind ⁿ : sent to Susquehana for Ind ^s : Cash	1.	12.	—
		To Peter a Mohawk Warrior to fulfill his Dream a silver Band	8.	—.	—
		To Peter a Mohawk Warrior to fulfill his Dream a silver Band	1.	12.	—
	4	To Seths Hance, Hend ^k : & Seth Jun ^r : Cash for sund ^y : Articles	2.	18.	—
		To a Birch Canoe at the Lake for Scouting	4.	15.	—
10 & 11		To the Indians on their Return from Lake George for Expences along the Road 57 Dollars	22.	16.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Septbr:

10 & 11	To several Belts Wampum used on sundy. Occasions there	£18.	12.	—
	To 28 Ind ^s : who lost their Gun in the Action & everything, paid their Familys for said losses agreeable to their Customs	116.	18.	—
	To a Hogshead Tobacco from Albany and freight.	6.	16.	—
	To David Vanderheyden for Sund ^s : as ~~£~~ Acc ^{ts} : for the Warriors at the Lake Viz ^t . Linnen, Kettles, Leather, Lead, Flints &c.	53.	14.	—
	To freight of D ^o : from Albany.	3.	3.	—
29	To Gilliane Winne for Riding to Lake George Sundrys. . .	11.	14.	—
	To W ^m : Peter Winne 10 days D ^o : from David Vanderheyden	4.	10.	—
30	To Bilccus Ward for mending Indian Guns in Camp.	1.	—.	—
Octbr.	8 To David 15 Dollars to bring some young Scoharee Ind ^s : here	6.	—.	—
	14 To White Hance, Nickus, Thomas, & Isacks sons in Cash to pay for some Ind ⁿ : Corn theirs being all destroyed in their Absence. . .	8.	—.	—
Novr.	3 To a Powder Horn bought for an Ind ⁿ : in Camp.	—.	3.	—
	4 To 3 Ind ^s . who were on the Scout towards South Bay 9 doll ^{rs} :	3.	12.	—
	5 To Lieu ^t . Jn ^o . Butler for Ind ⁿ : Expences by the way hither. }	8.	8.	6
	10 To Adam Swarts Account of sund ^s : advanced to the Ind ^s : }	8.	16.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Nov ^r .	23	To Jacob Switts for Rideing as $\pounds$ Account	£4.	10.	—
		To Johannes V Eps for sundrys as $\pounds$ D ^o	4.	—.	—
Decbr.	2	To 4 Indians who came from Lake with the Army	4.	12.	—
		To 4 D ^o : of the Oneida & Tuscarora Nations sent Ex- press by their Castles to de- mand Assistance of Men, Arms & Ammunt ⁿ	8.	16.	4
		To Waggon Hire from Lake George w th : the Sect ^{ys} : Chest & Ind ⁿ . Goods &ca to my House 8 Waggons 7 days each at 9/. $\pounds$	25.	4.	—
		To Expresses on Sundry Oc- casions	18.	12.	6
		To a Meeting at my House of the Mohawks &ca about the Shawanese & Delawares Murdering our People, and destroying the Settlements, on the Frontiers of New York, Jersey, & Pensilvania, to stop it	14.	16.	—
		To 3 Belts & 1 String Wamp ^m : sent thorough all y ^e . Nat ^s : on y ^s : Acc ^{tt} : & in Answer to y ^e . Tuscaroras request of forti- ficing them	8.	17.	6
	4 th	To Hanjoost Harkemar as $\pounds$ Acc ^{tt} : will appear	12.	14.	4
	8	To Arent Stevens as $\pounds$ D ^o . bringing down the Six Nations	44.	14.	2½
		To a small Belt Wampum sent by the Interpreter to y ^e . Mohawks	1.	9.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Decbr.	8	To Ja ^s : Ratcliff for Rideing Guns & Pork.....	}	—.	2.	3
		To Basnean Visger for D ^o : 2 freights Ind ^s : to Albany...	}	—.	18.	—
		To 3 Store Tents for keeping Indian Goods in.....	}	£12.	—.	—
		To rid ^s : Ottrowana &ca to Schenectady by Dan ^l : Van Antwerp	}	—.	9.	—
		To Paper Quills & Ink.....	}	5.	—.	—
		To Jacob Van Schaik for bring ^s : up a Chest of Hang- ers & Powder.....	}	1.	4.	—
		To a Secretarys Chest as ^{ph} Garret V Santas receipt....	}	—.	14.	—
		To Jack Graverood Stuart of the Ind ⁿ : Stores & Prov ^s : from the 8 th : of August to the 1 st : December being 115 Days @ 4/. ^{ph}	}	23.	—.	—
		To 3 Oxen bought of Jn ^o : Mat- thews for the Fighters....	}	16.	—.	—
	9	To an Express sent me from the Aghquageys w th : the News of the Delawares &ca destroy- ing severall Familys in the Borders of the different Gov- ernments, and now marching in a Body against them....	}	3.	12.	—
		To a Belt of Wampum sent to the Delawares on s ^d : Occa- sion	}	2.	18.	—
		To severall Surgeons for their Care & Attendance of the Indians who were Sick at Albany, Schenectady & in Camp, Also the Wounded..	}	29.	—.	—
		To 2 Ind ^s : who went to Crown Point for Intelligence & a Prisoner	}	5.	16.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Decbr.	9	To Postage of 2 Large Packets of Letters &ca, from Gen ^l : Shirley & Gov ^r : Morris on the same Occasion...	£3.	7.	6
	18	To sundy: Mohawks whom I sent for on my going to York to leave them directions what to do in my Absence, and Ord ^{rs} : to go as Scouts to Lake George.....	7.	19.	—
	19	To Cap ^t : Peter Conin & 25 Men Garrisoning the Mohawks Castle & Fort during my Absence being 126 days 2/2 ⁹	£341.	5.	—
		To his own Pay 126 d ^o . 8/.....	50.	8.	—
		To some Mohawks whom I prevailed on last Spring to leave Canada & Settle here, which they did & assisted me at Lake George, but was lately Invited to return to Canada having some of their Friends killed in the Action by us, but on my return home prevented their going, Cash 20 Dollars, & Sundry Goods £6. 12.....	391.	13.	—
		To Seth the chief Scoharee Sachem who came with some News to me.....	14.	12.	—
	20 th	To a German Doctor who attended one of the wounded Mohawks	3.	18.	6
		To Arent Stevens for Expences when he went to call down the Six Nations.....	2.	—.	—
	22	To Arent Stevens for Expences when he went to call down the Six Nations.....	10.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Decbr. 22	To Johannes Bradt for Beer for the Ind ^s : at Schenectady...	£1.	7.	—
	To Capt ^s : Marselis & Vanveghty for carrying up from York £3439.—9 from Mr: Watts	10.	6.	—
	To Mr: Watts for Commissions for receiving £3000 Sterlg. or £5142. 17.— Currency..	102.	15.	2
	To Casper Collier for Rideing Stores to the Lakes.....	1.	16.	—
	To Jacobus Clement Interpreter when he went to call the Susquehanna Indians.....	5.	—.	—
	To Claus Vanworth for the Maintainance of Ottrowanas Family while he was out w th : me to Lake George.....	3.	10.	—
	To 1. P ^s : striped Blankets bought at York for Sachems.	10.	—.	—
24	To Doctor Vandyke for his Attendance of some Indians...	1.	13.	—
	To Wouter Groesbeck for Rideing Stores &ca.....	—.	12.	—
	To the Wid ^w : Ranslear for 3 Sheep & a Hog to the Ind ^s ..	1.	19.	—
	To the 2 Ind ^s : sent w th . a Message to the Delawares then Scalping	9.	—.	—
26	To 2 Ind ^s : sent Express by the Sachems acquainting me w th : the Designs of the French against Oswegoe.....	8.	—.	—
	To 12 Waggons w th : Prov ^s : for the Six Nations from Albany to my House against the general Meeting to be held here	24.	—.	—
28	To John Sanders for 33 th : Vir-million .. 14/6 ₤.....	23.	18.	6

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Decbr.	28	To my Expences going to York there, & coming back on General Shirleys request...	£80.	—.	—
		To 2 Belts Wampum & Strings to call down all the Nations to the general Meeting at my House	7.	—.	—

1756

Febry.	2	To 29000 Wampun made into 12 Belts for the Meeting & given with the Prisoners as Customary	34.	3.	6
		To Making said Belts.....	4.	16.	—
		To 6 Ind ⁿ : Scouts who were out 15 days towards Crown Point 4/ ₤.....	18.	—.	—
		To severall Ind ^s : whom I met at Albany Cash to buy Prov ^s : &ca.....	3.	14.	—
		To 3 Ind ^s : who accompanied the Interpreter thorough y ^e . 6 Nat ^s :	16.	18.	—
		To bringing up 6 french Prisoners, & Goods for the Indians.	4.	9.	—
	3	To 8 large New England Oxen of Jeremy Hooageboom at £8. ₤ for the Meeting...	64.	—.	—
		To Expences of driveing, & feeding them by the way hither	2.	9.	—
		To Sund ^s : had of Barnt Ten Eyke Silver Smith as ₤ Acc ^t :	9.	19.	—
		To an Entertainment given to 4 Mohawk Familys come from Ohio to settle at the Mohawks	3.	17.	6
		To Adam Leuks for Rideing over the Carrying Place for the Seneca Indians.....	2.	5.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Febry.	5	To Hendrick Fry for Prov ^s : for the Ind ^s : coming down..	£10.	6.	9
		To D ^o : for Garrisoning Cana- joharee Fort with 25 Men 4 Months & 8 days at 2/2 $\pounds$ & the Officer at 8/. $\pounds$	407.	12.	—
		To sundrys supplied the In- dians by Tho ^s : Butler as $\pounds$ his Account will appear....	13.	3.	6
		To an Onondaga Ind ⁿ : Cash 16/. & sundy: Articles of Cloath ^g : 58/.....	3.	14.	—
	8	To 2 Ind ^s : who Accompanied the Interpreter to call the Aghquageys &ca.....	4.	18.	—
	10	To Hendrick Harkemar Smith for mend ^g : the Conajoh ^{ee} : Indians Arms.....	5.	3.	—
		To Cornelius Vandenberg Ex- press to York w th . the Ac- count of the Frenches Inten- tions of Attacking Oswego.	7.	—.	—
		To an Aghquagey Ind ⁿ : who went with a Message from Sir Charles Hardy to the Ind ^s : living at Susquehana when I was at Lake George.	1.	12.	—
		To Waggon & Battoe Hire with Ind ⁿ : Prov ^s : from Al- bany here & with the present to this day.....	35.	18.	—
		To Horse & Slay Hire for several Sachems	4.	17.	6
		To Stableing of the Ind ^s : Horses who came to the Meeting	5.	14.	—
	15	To Isack Collier for an Ox for the Mohawks going to War.	4.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Feb ^{ry} .	15	To a young Caiyouga who went to the Senecas w th : 2 Ind ⁿ : Officers to call down the Warriors	£5.	14.	—
		To 2 Waggon more from Al- bany w th : Kettles Goods &ca	4.	—.	—
	17	To Phillip Reily for mending some Caiyougas Arms	—.	15.	6
		To Hance Vandewerkey as P Acc ^{tt} : for Prov ^s :	—.	15.	—
	18	To White Hance the Ind ⁿ : for Prov ^s : 20/. & to others for D ^o : 29/.	2.	9.	—
		To 4 Goats killed for the Ind ^s : at the Meeting @ 12/. P . . .	2.	8.	—
		To Hanjoost Harkemar for Prov ^s . for 15 Ind ^s . from Canuscago ¹	—.	16.	—
	19	To 5 fatt Oxen for the Ind ^s : from Conajoharee	21.	—.	—
	22	To 3 Waggon with Bread from Schenectady	2.	14.	—
	27	To 3 D ^o : from Alb ^y : w th : D ^o : & Pork for the Indians	6.	—.	—
	28	To Jacobus Clement for sund ^s : for the Aghquageys	1.	6.	—
		To Arent Stevens Interpreter for defraying the Expence of severall Ind ^s : gone down to Schenectady	10.	—.	—
		To Brant the Ind ⁿ : as P Ac- count for Sundrys	5.	12.	—
		To Isack Wemp for keeping Brants Horse dur ^g : y ^e : Con- gress	—.	11.	—

¹ "Kanuskago, the Door of the Five Nations," was at Dansville and first mentioned in 1756. W. M. Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 107.

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Febr'y. 29 To Will ^m : Printup for Prov ^s :			
supplied some Ind ^s : coming			
to the Meeting as $\text{\textcircled{P}}$ sundry			
Accounts will appear.	£6.	17.	5
To Sund ^y : Expences attended			
the Ind ^s : going to Lake			
George as $\text{\textcircled{P}}$ the Rev ^d : Mr:			
Ogilvies Acc ^t : will appear.	103.	9.	5
To freight of £500 lodged in			
his hands for the above &			
other uses	1.	10.	—
To Peter Conin Smith for sun-			
drys done for the Ind ^s : as $\text{\textcircled{P}}$			
Account	11.	13.	6
To sund ^y : Expences bringing			
down the Six Nations as $\text{\textcircled{P}}$			
Interpreters Account will ap-			
pear	32.	3.	—
To Hanjoosh Harkemar for			
Prov ^s : for the Six Nations			
com ^g . down to the Congress			
as $\text{\textcircled{P}}$ Acco ^t : will appear. . .	19.	17.	8
To 840 Loaves Bread to the			
Ind ^s :	42.	—.	—
To 199½ Skipple Corn to ..			
D ^o .. @ 2/6 $\text{\textcircled{P}}$	24.	18.	9
To 61 .. D ^o ... Wheat to ..			
D ^o ... 4/	12.	4.	—
To 8 Fatt Sheep.. 12/	4.	16.	—
To 1 Fatt Cow.	3.	—.	—
To Hnd ^k : Fry for sund ^s : as $\text{\textcircled{P}}$			
his Acc ^t : will appear.	1.	9.	—
To a Hogshead Rum q ^t : 112			
Gallons .. 3/6	19.	12.	—
To Building of Houses for			
them, Boards & Firewood. .	12.	—.	—
To the Conajoh ^o : to buy Ind ⁿ :			
Corn w th : being verry scarce.	30.	—.	—
To 12 Barrels Beer dureing the			
Congress @ 16/ $\text{\textcircled{P}}$	9.	12.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Febry.	29	The following Goods are given as a Present		
14	P ^s : Strowds @			
	£9.10	⌘	.....	£133.—.—
2	D ^o : Aurora	15.—.—	30.—.—	
6	D ^o : Blankets	9.10.—	57.—.—	
3	D ^o : French D ^o .			
	12.10.			—37.10
2	D ^o : Penniston qt:	}	.. 29.15. 4	
	161 yds .3/6.			
20	D ^o : Linnens	}	30/...48.10.—	
	6 of them			
	made up			
	in Shirts.			
2	D ^o : Bear Skin	}	8/...22.16.—	
	for Coats 57			
	yds			
20	D ^o : Ribbons.	12/6.	12.10.—	
50	D ^o : Gartering...	8/..	20.—.—	
2	Doz. Hose....	52/..	5. 4.—	
4	D ^o — D ^o ... @	24/..	4.16.—	
6	C ^t : Gun Powder	}	84.—.—	
	£14			
10	D ^o : Lead @	2.10..	25.—.—	
40 ⁿ	Virmillion...	14/..	28.—.—	
387 ¹ / ₂ ⁿ	Kettles...	3/6....	67.16. 3	
	To 5 Groce Awl			
	Blades ..	16/....	4.—.—	
	To 1 ¹ / ₂ M. Gun Flints		3.15.—	
	To 6 Groce brass	}	1.16.—	
	Rings ..	6/.....		
	To 40 Doz. Knives	}	22.—.—	
	11/.			
2	D ^o : fine Tea Potts	}	7. 4.—	
	72/.			
6 ⁿ	Garlix thread fine	}	2.14.—	
	9/			
1	doz. Youths Ind ⁿ :	}	1. 2.—	
	Hose			
1	d ^o . D ^o : 19/.	}	1.16.—	
	D ^o : 17/.....			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Febry.	29	6	d ^o : Snuff Boxes	18/.	.....	£5. 8.—		
			Pipes and Tobacco.	10.—.	—			
		5	P ^s : broad Saddle	Gimp ..28/.	.....	7.—.		
		3	D ^o : narrow D ^o .	14/.	.....	2. 2.—		
		4½	doz. Jews Harps	4/6	.....	1.—. 3		
	15		d ^o : stone Rings	1/.	—.	15.—		
		4	d ^o : Combs.	6/:	1.	4.—		
		3	d ^o . Worsted Caps	30/.	.....	4. 10.—		
	15½		Brass Wire.	4/6	3.	9. 9		
		3¼	White Beeds.	4/6	—.	14. 7½		
		1	P ^s : double fold	Garlix	.....	5. 5.—		
		1	Scarlet Coat to	Ottrowana Chief	.....	6. 15.—		
		1	black D ^o : to Ab-	raham Hend ^{ks}:	.....	5. 10.—		
		1	blue Camblet D ^o :	to Nickus of	.....	4. 12.—		
		1	Silk Grogram	D ^o : with Gold	.....	8. 16.—		
		2	Ratteen D ^o : with	Cord & silver	.....	9.—.		
		3	P ^s : Ribbons...	1 french Blanket	.....	3. 15.—		
		1	16/.	& 7 small	D ^o : 70/.	.....	4. 16.—	
	19		Blanket Strowds	£15. 4. & 1 Pr:	.....	15. 6.—		
			Garters	2/.	.....			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Febry.	29	6	Pr: french				
			Stock ^{gs} : 2.14.—	£3.12.—			
			& 3 Ells frize 18/.				
		1	Pr: Shoe Buckles				
			2/6 & 1 Silk	— .10. 6			
			Handkf 8/.....				
		3	Pr: Child ^s : Hose				
			6/. & 11 th : Pow-	1.19.—			
			der 33/.....				
		15	Pr: Strowd				
			Stockings ..6/.	4.10.—			
		27	D ^o Laps..4/..	5. 8.—			
		300	Dollars for Pri-				
			ivate Presents	120.—.—			
			&ca.				
			Cash in Dollars to				
			the Warriors of				
			the 2 Mohawk	200.—.—	£1085.	9.	8½
			Castles for their				
			signal services.				

Mar ^h	3	To 4 Swivels & Carriage given					
		to the Oneidas and Tuscar-					
		ororas at £5 ₤.....	20.	—.	—		
		To a Sheep p ^d . Simon Vedder					
		as ₤ receipt for the Ind ^s :	—.	14.	—		
		going out to War.....					
	4 th .	To Hance Van Eps for Prov ^s :					
		for the Mohawks as ₤ Ac-	7.	5.	—		
		count					
		To John Wells for supplying					
		the Aghquagey Ind ^s . as ₤	24.	—.	8		
		Account					
		To Thomas for a Bull of his					
		killed for a feast to the Tribe	3.	—.	—		
		of the Turtle.....					
		To 2 Ind ⁿ . Expresses come with					
		News to me about Oswego.	5.	—.	—		
		To an Express come from Alb ^y :					
		w th : Letters, & Another to	2.	14.	—		
		Albany					

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Mar ^h 4 th .	To the great Seneca Ind ⁿ : called Tageghsady a Laced Coat	£5.	12.	—
10	To Mark Reece for a Hog to the Indians going to Lake George last Summer	—.	15.	—
	To Joseph Clement for a Hog for D ^o : going to D ^o : last summer	1.	15.	—
11	To an Ind ⁿ : who lost his Horse in the Expedition w th . me Valued £10.	4.	—.	—
	To 2 P ^s . yard wide Linnen for the Chiefs Ruffled	13.	—.	—
12	To 6 P ^s : Saddle Lace for Scar- let Blankets to several chief Warriors	4.	16.	—
	To 4 doz. Knives given Oc- casionally 44/. & 1 large Kettle to the Castle. . £3.	5.	4.	—
13	To 12 Ells German Serge 36/. & 2 Ells white Stuff 6/. for Colours for Indians	2.	2.	—
	To 5 Sheep 70/. 1 th : thread 8/. & 3 Worsted Caps to Old Sachems 10/6	4.	8.	6
	To an Ind ⁿ : Express came from the Carrying place with Letters	1.	18.	—
	To Joh ^s . Petry for ridg: 3 Bat- toes for the Ind ^s . coming down	—.	12.	—
	To a Scollop Gold Laced Hatt to the chief Warrior of Canuscago	5.	—.	—
	To Solomon Taylor Express sent to Boston to Gen ^l : Shir- ley w th : an Acc ^t : of the Gar- rison being in distress at Oswegoe	10.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Mar ^h	13	To Cobus Clement as P^{d} Acc ^t : } for sundry Expences.....}	£1.	17.	6
		To Cornelius Vandenberg for } 3400 black Wampum to } Clement the Interpreter....}	5.	2.	—
		To a Hogshead Rum q ^t . 116 } Gall ^s : & freight to my House. }	18.	12.	—
	15	To 2 P ^s : Strowds } .. £20.— & 1 } £30.10.— P ^s : B l a n k e t s } £10. 10 }			
		4 D ^o : $\frac{3}{4}$ Garlix } ... 11.— & } 15.16.— 12 P ^s : Garter- } ing £4. 16.... }			
		50 Yards Pen- } niston @ 3/. } 7.10.— P^{d} }			
		Freight of D ^o : } from Albany to } my House.... } 1.—.—	54.	16.	—
		The above Articles were given to the Widdows & Child ⁿ . of the Indians who were killed in the Action at Lake George having promised to take care of them.			
		To Expences attended my } Marching a Number of Ind ^s : } and 1300 of the Militia under } my Command to y ^e . Assist- } ance of the Oneidas at their } desire, also to secure y ^e . } Magazine of Prov ^s : at the } German Flatts, where I lay } 3 days untill I heard from } Cap ^t . Williams all was safe. }	44.	16.	—
		To Bernadus Bradt for Ferry ^g : } over at Alb ^y . a number of } Ind ^s : }	—.	14.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Mar ^h	15	To 1 Ct: Powder sent at the same time to the Oneidas and Tuscaroras & freight up w th : a Canoe w th : y ^t . & sundy. other things	£14.	18.	—
	20	To 3 Strings Wampum sent by Clement Interpreter with Lieu ^t : Dunbar to desire all the Nations to assist our People in Carrying up Provisions to Oswegoe Garrison & Escort them hither.	1.	4.	—
	21	To Cash to some Old Ind ^s : at the German Flatts to purchase Prov ^s : they having got lame, & some sick returning from the general Meeting. .	3.	16.	—
		To 1000 Large black Wampum bought for a Belt.	1.	10.	—
		To 3 Expresses sent to me with the News of a French Army & Indians coming against the Oneidas, Carrying Place or Burnetsfield, also mine for further News	9.	—.	—
	24	To 1 Cask Powder to Conajoharee Fort at y ^e : desire of y ^e : Sachems	7.	—.	—
		To 2 Aghquagey Ind ^s : to purchase Provisions for themselves & an Indian who shott his hand to pieces at Scoharee & could not get home from the meeting.	1.	14.	—
	27	To Hanjoost Harkemar as Φ Account will appear.	3.	1.	3
		To the Expences of the Meeting of the Mohawks. .	2.	16.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Mar ^h	28	To Horse Hire & Expresses sent w th : the News of the Enemys being at the Carry- ing Place to Albany &ca....	£2.	16.	—
		To Horse Hire for myself & Indians to Ride up to the Carrying Place, keeping the Horses, Exp ^s : maintain ^g . the Party being above 500....	47.	14.	—
		To 2 Soldiers who on our March to Lake George found a French Gun & Pack with Sund ^s : which the In- dians claimed as their Right, & I paid the Men for them omitted to be charged August 20 th : 1755	2.	2.	—
			£8873.	—.	6
		To a party of Warriors re- turned with a Serjeants Scalp from Tionderogo, a Belt of Wampum to Hang to it for Seth was killed 46/ & a Treat 35/.....	4.	1.	—
	8	To Clement Interpreter Cash to defray the Expence of a Party of Mohawks who were gone to Invite all the River Indians to come and live among them	10.	—.	—
	9	To a Belt of black Wampum to call the Warriors on the late Alarms to our Assist- ance	3.	8.	—
	10	To a Belt & String Wampum sent by Cap ^t : Butler to call some Ind ^s : to assist him in Clearing the Road to Oswego	2.	16.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Ap ^l .	11 To Expresses to & from Albany, also to & from the 6 Nations &ca	£9.	18.	—
	12 To Doctor M ^c : Kinley for Attending a Mohawk Sachem.	5.	16.	—
	13 To an Express w th : Letters sent to the Commanding Officers.	1.	4.	—
	14 To D ^o sent to D ^o . & Horse Hire.....	1.	12.	—
	16 To D ^o : from Bradstreet to Col ^o . Burton & Major Chapman	—.	16.	—
	To a Present to the Onondaga, Oneida & Tuscarora Sachems who went to settle Matters w th : the Delawares & Shawanese	28.	16.	—
	17 To freight of Powder & Lead from Albany to my House.	1.	4.	—
	To Jacob Potman for 2 Hogs for the Ind ^s : 72/. & 20 Boards 13/4.....	4.	5.	4
	To Expresses sent to Albany, Schenectady &ca with an Account of Oswego being besieged	2.	10.	—
	To two black Belts Wampum to call the Aghquagey Ind ^s . & 6 Nations to Join me at the Carrying Place & to go to Oswego	7.	16.	—
	To some Chieftains of the Ind ^s : 12 Pair Pistols at £3. — ₹	36.	—.	—
	19 To Expences attended my March ^g . up to the German Flatts w th : the Militia & Ind ^s : on y ^e . News of Oswego being Beseiged	12.	16.	—
	20 To Nickus Brants son for a Cow for his Family being a Brave Fellow	5.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Ap ^l .	20	To Horse Hire for some Indians on said Alarm.....	£2.	18.	—
		To an Express sent from the German Flatts to Coll ^o . Gage contradicting y ^e . above News by a Letter from Coll ^o . Mercer	1.	4.	—
		To a Treat to the Conajo- harees & Mohawks on their Joining me, & on paying them the money at their Castles for their Signal Services at Lake George &ca, 6 Barrels Beer, 6 Gall ^s . Rum, 2 Oxen, Corn, Pease &ca.....	18.	6.	—
	22	To sund ^s : given to the Mohawk Deputy's sent to Invite the River Ind ^s : to come & live among them, & at y ^e . Meet- ing when they return'd to give me an Account of their Embassy	6.	12.	8
		To an Express sent to Major Craven &c, w th : Lett ^s . from Gen ^l : Shirley, ...	1.	4.	—
	23	To Smiths Work done by Ryar Bowen last Meeting for the Ind ^s : as Φ his Acc ^t : & receipt will appear.....	4.	19.	—
	24	To Seths Hance in Cash for Burying his Child.....	—.	10.	—
		To Lieut: Jn ^o : Butler for a Hog 30/. & 10 th : Kettles 35/. for the Ind ^s :	3.	5.	—
		To Seth the Chief Sachem of Scoharee Cash 5 Dollars, a black Strowd, 4 Ells flower'd Serge, 2 pair Hose & Shott.	4.	1.	—
		To Lieut: John Butler Ind ⁿ : Officer for 196 days Service @ 4/6 Sterg.....	77.	3.	6

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Ap ^l .	24	To Lieut: Stephen Schuyler	}	£60.	5.	9
		153 D ^o :...4/6.....				
	30	To Lieu ^t Nicholas Stevens	}	56.	14.	—
		144 D ^o :...4/6.....				
		To 3 Strings Wampum sent by	}	1.	4.	6
		the Master Workman to				
		Onondaga about having their	}			
		Fort in a proper place.....				
		To Cap ^t : Matthew Ferralls	}	124.	5.	—
		pay for 142 days 10/.				
		Sterlg.	}	114.	12.	6
		To Cap ^t : Benjamin Stodderts				
		D ^o . 131 d ^o . 10/.....	}	—.	12.	—
May	3	To Jacobus G. Vanscaik for				
		ridg. a Load of Powder for	}	21.	5.	6
		the Ind ^s				
		To Hendrick Bogart for 1	}	8.	15.	—
		Hogshead Rum & Cags for				
		the Onondaga Meeting....	}	9.	15.	—
		To Benjamin Forsey for To-				
		bacco for Ditto.....	}	7.	16.	—
		To Robert Sanders for 2 Boxes				
		Pipes for Ditto.....	}	2.	—.	—
		To 5200 black Wampum....				
		for Ditto	}	5.	11.	—
		To 2000 white..D ^o ..for Ditto.				
		To 36 Gall ^s : Rum for the Ind ^s .	}	4.	18.	6
		from Isack Bogart as th his				
		Acc ^{tt} . will appear, th ord ^{rs} :	}	87.	10.	—
		Cap ^t : Ferrall & Clement...				
	4	To 2 Hogs for the Half King	}	12.	—.	—
		& 25 more come from Phila-				
		delphia, Bread, Meal &ca..	}			
		To Cap ^t : Jonathan Stevens				
		Pay for 100 Days at 10/.	}			
		Sterlg.				
	6	To 3 Ind ^s : sent Expresses to	}			
		call the Southern Ind ^s : on				
		the News of Oswegoe being	}			
		taken				

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

May	7	To Expences attending my Marching up w th : 1400 of the Militia & Ind ^s . to the German Flatts on an Acc ^t : sent by Capt ^{ns} : Falconer & Patten that 5000 French & Ind ^s : were within 2 days March of the German Flatts in Order to destroy the Magazine Settlements there.	£36.	15.	—
	8	To 3 Conajoharee Ind ^s : sent to stop the Southern Ind ^s : March on finding it a false Alarm	8.	18.	—
		To 4 th Virmillion @ 18/. @ . . .	3.	12.	—
	10	To 100 Boards of Cornelius Smith for Houses for the River Ind ^s :	4.	3.	4
		To 2 Oxen bought of Jeremy Quack last June & forgot to enter	9.	—.	—
	11	To Elisha Gun for mending Arms &ca for the Nanticokes	6.	—.	4
		To Sundrys given to bury a Widdow at the Mohawks . .	1.	3.	—
	12	To Lieu ^t : Daniel Clause for 195 days Pay at 4/6 Sterlg.	76.	16.	—
		To Lieu ^t : Robert Adems for 195 days Pay at 4/6 Sterlg.	76.	16.	—
	13	To Clement the Interpreters Acc ^t : for bringg. up 75 River Ind ^s : from Albany to the Mohawks where I settled them	15.	8.	4
		To sund ^y . Persons for bringing from Lake George Ind ⁿ : Goods to my House viz ^t : Blankets, Pennistons, Kettles, Arms &ca	7.	10.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

May	14	To the late Hend ^{ks} : Widdow } ⌘ her Son to purchase some } Necessaries 12 Dollars. }	£4.	16.	—
		To Prov ^s : at this Meeting with } the 2 Mohawk Castles, } Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Seneca, } Caiyougas, Scoharee & Agh- } quagey Ind ^s : which held 3 } Days }	16.	12.	—
	15	To Capt ^t : Peter Schuyler for } the Pay of Himself & 25 } Men posted at Conajoharee } from the 10 th : March to the } 10 th May being 61 Days, } himself at 8/. & the Men at } 2/2 ⌘ }	189.	12.	2
July	11	To William Fox for 100 } Skipple Wheat @ 4/3 ⌘ . . }	21.	5.	—
		To . . . Ditto for 2 Oxen. . . . }	9.	10.	—
		To Joh ^s : Nellus for 96 Skipple } Wheat . . 4/3 }	20.	8.	—
		To an Express sent to Gen ^l : } Abercrombie w th : an Ac- } count of the Delaware & } Shawanese Ind ^s : hav ^g . settled } all Matters. }	1.	4.	—
		To 2 Ind ^s : sent Express to call } the above Ind ^s : to a Meeting. }	10.	—.	—
		To a Tuscarora Ind ⁿ : named } Rutt, for Gen ^l : Shirleys } Acc ^{ts} : his Men having killed } a Milch Cow of his in their } way to Oswego, & destroyed } all his Crop w th : a drove of } Cattle }	8.	—.	—
		To an Express sent to Oswego } by Hamilton from Gen ^l : } Abercrombie }	5.	—.	—
		To a Delaware King a present } in Cloaths, Cash &ca } Amount ^g . to }	36.	15.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	12	To y ^e . Shawanes King a D ^o : in } D ^o : & another with him... }	£38.	12.	—
	19	To David Vanderheyden for } the following Goods viz ^t . }			
	1	P ^s : Penniston q ^t : } 95 yards @ 3/3 } £15. 8. 9 ⌘ }			
	20	Rolls Gartering } @ 8/. & 20 } 15.—.— Rolls D ^o : @ 7/. } ⌘ }			
	1 ⁿ .	Paint..... —.15.—			
			31.	3.	9
		To Cartwright for 1 Ct: Gun } Powder }	10.	—.	—
		To an Ind ⁿ : at Alb ^y . 1 Pr. } Shoes, Stock ^{gs} : Buckles, Cap } & Handkf. }	1.	6.	—
		To another D ^o : at D ^o : 1 Pr: } Shoes & Buckles..... }	—.	10.	—
		To Manuel Josephson for 6 } Barrels Beef @ 48/. ⌘... }	14.	8.	—
		To freight of D ^o : to Sche- } nectady & my House..... }	2.	8.	—
		To Robert Sanders for 55 ⁿ } Virmillion @ 12/. ⌘.... }	33.	—.	—
		To Benjamin Williams Butcher } for Prov ^s : &ca, for the Ind ^s . }	11.	—.	—
		To Jacobus Clement Interpreter } for Expences bringing up 196 } Ind ^s : to my House., ... }	30.	6.	11
		To the following Goods bought } March 15 th : as ⌘ sund ^y . } Acct ^s . will appear and de- } livered Occasionally to the } Indians viz ^t }			
		To 19 P ^s : Strowds..... } @ £11.... ⌘ £209.—.— }			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	19	30 Rolls Gartering	8/	£12.—.—		
		29 D ^o : .. D ^o : 8/.		11.12.—		
		17 P ^s : Gimps .6/.		5.12.—		
		14 D ^o : Strowds		154.—.—		
		£11				
		5 D ^o : $\frac{3}{4}$ Garlix		12.10.—		
		2.10				
		50 Rolls Gartering		20.—.—		
		8/.				
		50 D ^o :.. D ^o :..7/.		17.10.—		
		4 Groce Jews				
		Harps ..24/....		4.16.—		
		9 P ^s : $\frac{3}{4}$ Garlix...		23. 9.—		
		5 D ^o : yard wide				
		D ^o :		27.10.—		
		2 D ^o : Strowds...		22.—.—		
		3 D ^o : yard wide				
		Garlix ..106/..		15.18.—		
		4 D ^o : $\frac{3}{4}$ D ^o ..55/.		11.—.—		
		2 D ^o : $\frac{3}{4}$ D ^o ..50/.		5.—.—		
		4 D ^o : $\frac{3}{4}$ D ^o ..48/.		9.12.—		
		57 $\frac{1}{2}$ Yards Pen-		9.6.10 $\frac{1}{2}$		
		niston 3/3. ..				
		1 Pack Leather		13.10.—		
		Wt: 54 ^{lb} ..5/.				
		1 D ^o :.. D ^o : 67 th		15. 1. 6		
		4/6				
		4 Doz. Knives		2.—.—		
		10/.				
		1 D ^o : & 10 Pr:				
		Wo ^s : Yarn		2.15.—		
		Hose 30/.				
		3 D ^o : Bays D ^o .		2.17.—		
		19/.				
		1 D ^o : D ^o : 15/.				
		& a black		1.10.—		
		Trunk 15/.				
				£608.	9.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

To the following Goods taken up with me to the Treaty at On- ondaga June 3 ^d . 1756.		
210 Indian Guns.	£419.	5. 4
36 Doz. Knives } @ 12/. ₤.... }	21.12.—	
311 Indian Axes } 3/. }	46.13.—	
500 ^{lb} : Kettles 3/6.	87.10.—	
18 ^{lb} : Brass Wire 5/	4.10.—	
5 Doz. Looking } Glasses 52/... }	8.—.—	
12 P ^s . Ribbons } 15/. }	9.—.—	
2 Barls: Rum q ^t . } 68 Gall ^s : 3/3 }	11. 7.—	
₤ & Barrels.. }		
2 doz Womens } Yarn Hose... }	2. 2.—	
1 Ct: Shott.....	2.10.—	
50 Skipple Meal } 3/. }	7.10.—	
24 D ^o . Pease 3/.	3.12.—	
24 Doz. plain } Rings }	1. 6. 6	
4 D ^o : stone D ^o . }		
6 Groce Awl } blades 15/.... }	4.10.—	
4 Doz. Fans 28/.	5.12.—	
8 doz. Combs 9/.	3.12.—	
12 d ^o : best Pen } Knives 10/... }	6.—.—	
2 d ^o : Snuff Boxes } gilt & raised }	2. 8.—	
24/ }		
4 P ^s : broad Silk } Ferriting 10/.	2.—.—	
6 D ^o : flower'd } Ribbond 20/.. }	6.—.—	

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

500 Pr: Hawks } Bill 6 ^d ₤..... }	£12.10.—		
5 Groce Fish } Hooks 6/. ... }	1.10.—		
1000 Needles ...	— .10.—		
Expences attend- ing my going up w th : the Ind ^s : by Land to On- ondaga & Re- turning exclu- sive of Battoe Hire	200.—.—		
		£869.	9. 10

July 19	To 450 white & 150 black Wampum in Strings bought for Gen ^l : Abercrombie & Sir Charles Hardy at Albany To William Corry at Albany as ₤ Account.....		13.	6
	To 15000 black Wampum for Belts & Strings.....	17.	8.	9
	To 2000 white..D ^o ...for.. D ^o	22.	10.	—
	To Harmanus Schyler for Sil- ver Works	2.	—.	—
	To 60 th : Tobacco 40/. & 9 Ells Callamancoe 18/.....	3.	15.	—
	To Making Ind ⁿ : Shirts.....	2.	18.	—
	To 17 Ells flower'd Serge.....	1.	16.	—
	To 37 Loaves Bread 37/. & 3 doz. & 5 Knives 41/.....	2.	11.	—
	To 2 Wool Hatts 10/. & 1 Lap 6/.....	3.	18.	—
	To 1 Tea Pott 7/. & 1 Bason 6/.	—.	16.	—
	To 7 Ells black Strowds 63/ & 17 Cags 25/6.....	—.	13.	—
		4.	8.	6

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	19	To 1 Bear Skin cut up for Covers for their Guns.....	—.	16.	—
		To 1 Pr: Womens Hose & 1 Worsted Cap	—.	5.	—
		To 3 Small french Blankets....	£1.	10.	—
		To 6 Combs 3/. 6 Knives 6/ & 1 P ^s : Gimps 6/.....	—.	15.	—
		To 1 Pr: Wo ^s : Hose 3/. 2 D ^o : Smaller 5/. & 3 D ^o : Child ^s : 6/.....	—.	14.	—
		To 17 Skipple Pease.....	3.	8.	—
		To 9 D ^o : Corn 22/6 & 7 D ^o : Wheat Meal 28/.....	2.	10.	6
		To 7 Duffil Blankets 13/.....	4.	11.	—
		To 2 french D ^o : 28/. & 3 smaller D ^o : 30/.....	2.	18.	—
		To 1 doz. Womens Yarn Hose.	1.	16.	—
		To 5 Pr: French Stockings 9/..	2.	5.	—
		To 1 P ^s : yard wide Linnen....	5.	5.	—
		To 2 Ells red Shalloon for Signals for Fighters, & a Cap..	—.	9.	—
		To 60 Ells Ozenbrigs made in Bags	5.	5.	—
		To 11 D ^o : German Serge 33/ & 3 Fatt Hogs £4.10.....	6.	3.	—
		To 1 Lamb 8/. 160 Loaves Bread £8.8 — & 17 Ells flowerd serge 51/.....	11.	7.	—
		To 2 th : Boards & 1 th : Nails for a Coffin	—.	3.	—
		To 7 Bear Skins for lying on...	5.	12.	—
		To 1 Fatt Cow.....	5.	—.	—
		To 23 Skipple Pease £14.12.— & 27 D ^o : Wheat £5.13.6..	10.	5.	6
		To 2 Trips w th : a Battoe for Prov ^s : to Schenectady.....	2.	8.	—
		To 15 Skipple Wheat Meal 4/6.	3.	7.	6
		To 2 Fatt Oxen of Sander Lewis.	7.	10.	—
		To 12 Doz. Knives 12/.....	7.	4.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	19	To 17 Ells yellow halfthicks 4/.	£3.	8.	—
		To a Fatt Cow of Andrew Snideer }	4.	10.	—
		To 5 Ells green Ratteen }	3.	10.	—
		To 50 Skipple Wheat }	12.	—.	—
		To 26 Cags 39/. & 11 Loaves Bread 11/ }	2.	10.	—
		To 2 Trips with a Waggon to Albany for Provisions }	4.	—.	—
		To 1 D ^o : with a Battoe to Schenectady for D ^o }	1.	4.	—
		To 5 fatt Sheep 70/. & 6 Pocket Bottles 6/ }	3.	16.	—
		To 4 Ells striped flannel 10/. & 1 Wool Hatt 3/ }	—.	13.	—
		To 1 Fatt Ox of Arent Potman .	4.	—.	—
		To Cash at Albany to about 60 Men of different Nations who went w th : me to see the General, to buy sund ^y . Necessarys }	21.	4.	—
		To Waggon for the Sachems their Women, Baggage &ca. }	4.	16.	—
		To Virmillion to Paint themselves when they waited on General Abercrombie }	1.	12.	—
		To Liquor at their War Dances there, and their Diet at Lott-ridges &ca }	25.	—.	5
	23	To Hance Hairhart for Horse Hire as ^ᵀ Account }	3.	12.	—
		To 2 Strings black Wampum to Conajoharee & Oneida In- vit ^g . the Warriors to come & Join others to go to Canada. }	—.	14.	6
		To Cash to the Ind ^s : who car- ried them & promised to exert themselves viz ^t . Hend ^{ks} : son, Nickus, Hance & an Oneida. }	3.	4.	—
	24	To 6 doz Knives . . @ 12/ }	3.	12.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	24	To 96 Kettles W ^t : 1275 th ..3/6.	£223.	2.	6
		To 3 Hogs 90/. & 1½ Ct: } Shott..78/. }	8.	8.	—
		To 24 doz. Knives @ 12/. Ⓟ } £14.8.—& 1 Felt Hatt 5/. }	14.	13.	—
		To 28 P ^s : Broad Saddle Lace } 26/. }	36.	8.	—
		To 8 P ^s : Narrow D ^o ..13/...	5.	4.	—
		To 3 th : white Thread 24/. 6 } Sk. Wheat 27/. & 1 P ^s : }	2.	17.	—
		Gimps 6/. }			
		To Sund ^s : as Ⓟ Arent Stevens } Interpreters Acc ^{tt} : will ap- }	11.	12.	—
		pear }			
		To Cash to 2 Delaware Ind ^s : } come to let me know that }			
		there were about 100 of their }			
		People to be here to Mor- }	1.	16.	—
		row, to buy a little Prov ^s : by }			
		the Road }			
		To 1 P ^s : Green Ratteen qt: } 24½ yds at 12/. Ⓟ }	14.	14.	—
		To Cap ^t : Peter Schyler for the } Pay of himself & 25 Men }			
		posted at Canajoharee from }			
		the 10 May to the 10 th : Ins ^t : }	189.	12.	2
		being 61 days himself at 8/. }			
		& the Men at 2/2 Ⓟ }			
		To Clements Horse Hire com- } ing up w th : 75 River Ind ^s . . }	—.	8.	—
		To Horse Hire & Expences to } the 3 Ind ^s : sent to know }			
		whether the Delawares & }	3.	18.	6
		Shawanese were met at }			
		Onondaga }			
		To a Debt of Old Hend ^{ks} : paid } to Cayenqueregos at his }			
		Brother Abraham's request 7 }	2.	16.	—
		Dollars }			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	24	To 2 Familys come from Philadelphia Cash for Prov ^s :...	£3.	17.	—
		To an Old Sachem of Onondaga & a Caiyouga livg. at Susquehana whom I sent this day w th : a Message to y ^e . Delawares & Shawanese....	2.	14.	8
		To 1½ Ct: Gun Powder for Fort Hendrick at Conajoharee and 4 Ct. 3. Q14 th , Lead together with the freight	29.	16.	9
		To an Old River Ind ⁿ : Sachem & 8 young Men who went on a Message from me to the Delawares &ca last Spring in Cash &c.....	3.	8.	6
		To sund ^y . Expences at a Meeting w th : y ^e : Oneidas & Tuscaroras who came w th : the News that some Deserters of ours had spread.....	4.	17	—
		To Canaghquiesa a chief Oneida for Quieting y ^e . Oneidas untill he enquired into the Affair, Cash 10 dollars, Scarlet Hose 18/9....	4.	18.	9
		To 2 Tuscaroras who Accompanied him Cash.....	2.	4.	—
		To a large white Belt w th . a Message to the 6 Nations by him	2.	6.	—
		To a string to desire they would take up all Deserters.....	—.	14.	—
		To 100 Sk. Ind ⁿ : Corn in 33 Bags for the Senecas who are in great Distress for want of Corn, & Carriage in 2 Battoes	33.	12.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	24	To 56 Sk. D ^o : to about 76 River In ^s : settled at the Mohawks Victuals &ca, for them all y ^e . first Meet ^g . I had w th . them in the Mohawks. . .	£9.	—.	—
		To a Belt & String Wampum spoke to the River Ind ^s : with	2.	5.	—
		To a Delaware Warrior who behaved verry well at Lake George & promised to come in a few days w th . some of his Men & go a Scalping.	2.	15.	—
		To a string Wampum sent by him to shew his People it was my desire	—.	10.	—
		To mend ^g . 29 Guns by W ^m : Printup as th his Account. .	2.	2.	—
		To 3 Ind ^s : from Conajoh ^{ee} : Express w th . News of an Engagm ^t . near Oswego. . . .	1.	3.	6
		To 5 Oxen from New England for the Meeting at Onondaga	52.	10.	—
		To the Charges of driving them from New England.	5.	—.	—
		To Justice Frys Acc ^t : of Expences to the Ind ^s : at sundry times	3.	13.	—
	25	To 2 Expresses sent to Gen ^l : Shirley the 24 & 27 th : May about the Onondaga Meeting	2.	—.	—
	27	To 2 Conajoharees in lieu of Guns 8 Dollars, viz ^t : Aron & he that was wounded in the Rist	3.	4.	—
		To Mr: Clauses Expences & Horse Hire going down to Albany for Prov ^s : for the Ind ^s	1.	12.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	28	To Clement the Interpreter Cash to bring up a Number of Indians & their Familys from the Fish Kills.....	£10.	—.	—
		To Cash to a Party of Mohawk Warriors for a War Dance &ca	2.	18.	6
	30	To Hend ^k : the great Sachems Widdow the Ballance of his Pay by Gen ^l : Shirleys order to me.....	7.	12.	—
		To Paulus Cap ^t : for his Pay due by order of Gen ^l . Shir- ley	4.	17.	—
		To sundrys at 2 different Meet- ings of the two Mohawk Castles &ca, and Belts, Strings &ca.....	6.	15.	—
		To Cap ^t : Thomas Butlers Pay from the date of his Commis- sion to the 1 st : December...	160.	2.	6
		To an Express to General Shir- ley about Garrisoning the Forts &c.....	1.	4.	—
		To D ^o : by .. D ^{os} : Order to Cap ^t : Pattent	1.	4.	—
		To 4 Oneidas sent down w th : an Acco ^{tt} : of the Threats of the French &ca, a Present & Cash	4.	18.	—
		To 4 Strings Wampum sent by them to desire the Oneidas & Onondagas to meet me at the German Flatts & take the Battoes in their Charge with the Present	1.	3.	6
		To Cash for Prov ^s : along the Road to the Flatts for y ^e . Battoe Men &ca, as Prov ^s : were scarce for the Meeting at Onondaga	5.	14.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	30	To 4 Shawanese come from Aghquagey besides Cloaths, Arms &ca.....	} £2.	—.	—
		To 10 M Black Wampum for Belts @ 3/. ₤ Ct.....	} 15.	—.	—
		To 6 M White .. D ^o : .. for D ^o . 2/.....	} 6.	—.	—
		To Making them up in Belts...	1.	4.	—
		To the Half Kings Family to purchase Prov ^s : & House Rent while he is out with me at Onondaga	4.	—.	—
		To Cash to the Belt of Wam- pum Alias Gaghswaghtani- unt & his Family for Prov ^s : on their way home to the Senecas where I advised him to Settle & leave Ohio.....	5.	16.	—
		To Cash to 6 Ind ⁿ : Scouts who were out 16 Days at 4/. ₤.	19.	4.	—
		To w ^t : p ^d : Cap ^t : Schyler for Ind ⁿ : Corn supplied some Squaws	1.	—.	—
		To sund ^y . Expresses back & forward to & from Oswegoe & Albany.....	16.	18.	—
		To John Wemp for Fencing the Mohawks Corn Lands..	24.	12.	6
		To 3 Ind ^s : sent Express to Onondaga to know whither the Southern Ind ^s : were Ar- rived there, & to tell them I was ready to sett out on my Journey for the Place.....	9.	16.	—
		To Cash to an Oneida family who turn out 5 Men to go to Canada	6.	—.	—
		To Cap ^t : Jacob for a Delaware Indian, a Debt.....	—.	7.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	30	To Nicknoxkey an Oneida Sachem Who gave me 3 sons to go to Canada, Cash to buy a Cow &ca.	£5.	10.	—
		To Pasturage of all the Indian Horses above 6 Weeks.	18.	—.	—
		To a Chief Oneida Warrior a large Gorget &ca, as Φ Clements Account will appear	2.	9.	—
		To David of Scoharee 2 Dollars, & to others 4 Ditto.	2.	8.	—
		To 2 Parties of Onondagas, Cash for Sundrys	8.	—.	—
		To a Young Conajoharee Warrior in lieu of a Gun.	1.	12.	—
		To Daniel a Mohawk who had pay due to him from Gen ^l : Shirley as a Lieu ^t : & grumbled greatly at his going away without paying of him.	8.	—.	—
		To Gaweghe another Chief who had a lieu ^{ts} Commis ⁿ : from Gen ^l : Shirley but never received any Pay from him altho promised 8/. Φ diem, to make him easy for a little while	4.	—.	—
		To a ConaJoharee Young Indian to purchase Wampum for a War Belt as he intended to go out for a Prisoner or scalp which he intended to give with it.	1.	10.	—
		To some Onondagas to purchase Provisions	2.	8.	—
		To Ja ^s : Glenn & Jn ^o : Mc Donald for bringing up four Chests of Arms from Schemectady	1.	4.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	30	To Peter an Ind ⁿ : I brought from Canada in Sundrys...	£1.	16.	8
		To a Silk Handkerchief for a signal to the Onondagas to go to Oswegoe Express....	—.	8.	—
		To Jacob Vroman for Building Onondaga Fort as P his Ac- count will appear & 75 th . Nails	588.	8.	9
		To Escorting Battoes & Prov ^s : to Oswegoe Garrison by or- der of Gen ^l : Shirley as P Cap ^t : Butler's Account will appear	199.	12.	8
		To the following Goods sent me by my Factor in New York as P his Account will appear May 18 th . 1756 —			
		157 Speckled Handled Cut- lashes @ 5/7 P	£43.	16.	7
		65 Red Leather D ^o . 5/2	16.	15.	10
		A Box 4/. Cart- age to Store for Packg. & thence O Board	—.	5.	6
		A Box 3/. Con- taining 50 Pis- tols 18/.....	45.	3.	—
		Cleaning, Oyling, Flinting & Cart- ing them	1.	18.	—
		2 Boxes Pipes q ^t 60 G ^s : 3/6 P & Cartage 9 ^d .	10.	10.	9
		5 Tierces Tobac- co W ^t : Nett	12.	3.	6
		8. C ^t 2. Q22 th . 28/			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	30	5	tite D ^o . 5/. $\pounds$			
			& Cartage to			
			the Sloop 9 ^d ..	£1. 5. 9		
			Cartage them			
			when full w th :			
			Nailing &	—. 3. 6		
			heading			
			200 Bushels Ind ⁿ :			
			Corn @ 2/8	26.18. 4		
			$\pounds$ & $\frac{1}{2}$ Measur ^g .			
			it			
		1	Doz. large			
			Looking Glasses			
			26/. with 29	18.14.—		
			doz. Camp ditto			
			@ 12/. $\pounds$...			
		20	doz. Scarlet			
			Worsted Hose	5.—.—		
			Child ^s : at 5/..			
		2	d ^o :Ind ⁿ : Knives			
			9/ & 29 $\frac{3}{4}$..	10.17. 9		
			Brass Wire 5/.			
			$\pounds$			
		3	P ^s : flowered			
			Serge q ^t . 97 $\frac{1}{2}$	13. 8.1 $\frac{1}{2}$		
			yards 2/9....			
		6	P ^s : Flower'd			
			Serge q ^t . 200	30. 6.—		
			yds @ 3/. $\pounds$			
		A	Box & Cartage..	4. 9		
		A	Bale Blankets			
			q ^t : 5 P ^s : at £11			
			$\pounds$ Pensilvania	£55.—.—		
			Currency			
			deduct 20/. abated			
			for the outside	1.—.—		
			Blanket dam-			
			aged			
				54.—.—		
		5	$\pounds$ C ^t : Commiss ^{ns} :			
			to M ^r White....	2.14.—		

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	30	Difference of Ex.			
		75/7 & Cartage	£3.17. 2		
		there			
		Charge of Import-			
		ing them over	— .19. 2		
		Land by Stage.			
		Twice Cartage here.	1. 6		
				61.11.10	
		A Box & Cartage			
		3/6 Containing			
		105 Speckled	29. 9. 9		
		handled Cut-			
		lashes at 5/7..			
		A Box & Cartage			
		4/9 Containing			
		241 plain Shirts	84. 1.8½		
		⌘ Average at			
		6/11½			
		46 Ruffled D°:			
		⌘ Average	28. 9. 5		
		12/4½			
		38 Red handled			
		Cutlashes 5/2.	9.16. 4		
		25 Speckled D°.			
		D°: 5/7.....	6.19. 7		
		A Box & Cart-			
		age 4/9 Con-			
		taining 164	57. 5.11		
		Plain Shirts ⌘			
		Average 6/11½			
		31 Ruffled Shirts			
		⌘ Average	19. 3.9½		
		12/4½			
		1 P ^s : flowered			
		Flannel q ^t : 19	2.17.—		
		Yards @ 3/. ⌘			
		1 doz. Hatts			
		(Castor) No.	7.10.—		
		1 @ 12/6 ⌘.			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July	30	1 d°. d°. ...	2 13/9	£8. 5.—	
		8 Hatts....	3 15/	6.—.—	
	15	D°. ...	4 16/3	12. 3. 9	
	18	D°. ...	5 17/6	15.15.—	
	11	D°. ...	6 19/7	10.15. 5	
	24	D°. ...	7 20/7½	24.15.—	

85. 4. 2

A Bale Ind ⁿ :		
Blankets q ^t : 5		
P ^s : at £9.15. ₤	£48.15.10	
Pensilvania		
Currency		
Cartage there 1/.		
Commissions 5		
₤ C ^t : to Mr:	2. 9.10	
White		
Difference Ex-		
chge: 6¾ ₤.	3. 8. 4	
C ^t :		
Charges ₤ Stage		
& Cartage here }	— .18.—	

55.11. 2

A Bale Ind ⁿ : Blan-		
kets q ^t : 6 P ^s :....	£54.—.—	
Cartage	—.—. 9	

54.—. 9

7 P ^s : loose Blankets		
at £9.5. ₤.....	£64.15.—	
Cartage	—.—. 9	
	64.15. 9	

8 Boxes small		
Arms q ^t : 200	£350.—.—	
@ 35/. ₤.....		
Cartage	—. 4.—	

350. 4.—

6 Pair brass Bullet		
Molds 26/6....	7.19.—	

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

July 30

1 brass mounted peice as a sample.	£1. 15. —		
1 Trading D ^o . as D ^o .	1. 8. —		
1 Barrel & Cartage Containing 93 th Cut Tobacco..	3. 11. 6		
Charges importing a small Bale of Linnen over land from Philadel- phia	— . 7. 6		
	£1162.	3.	6½

Augst

1 To the Pay of 15 of the Stock- bridge Ind ^s . Inlisted by Gen ^l : Shirley, for 2 Months ending the 27 July as ~~th~~ the Account will appear	98.	16.	—
To advance to 5 more Inlisted at 5 Dollars each.....	10.	—.	—
To Hend ^k : the Tuscarora, & 4 more of said Nation in lieu of their new Mount ^g . w ^t : they were to have now & Arms, 8 dollars each.....	16.	—.	—
To 2 Silver Gorgets to 2 More of said Nation.....	2.	12.	—
To Cash to a Young Chief to purchase Wampum to give w th : a Scalp in the Room of one of his People killed at the Lake, to stop him going to War to the Southward...	4.	10.	—
4 To Razors, Scissars & ca bought at Albany.....	5.	18.	5
To sund ^y . Sachems Money to buy some little Necessarys..	7.	—.	—
To Robert Lottridge at Albany for supplying the Indians went down to see Lord Lou- doun	15.	5.	7

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Aug st	4	To 7000 Black Wampum.....	£10.	10.	—
		To Exp ^s : at Schenectady going & Com ^g . for their Maintai- nance	12.	—.	—
		To Waggon Hire to & from Alby: for the Sachems &c 8 Waggon	4.	16.	—
		To Dressing Skins & Making Shoes for Lieu ^t : Kennedy & his Party of Soldiers....	2.	6.	—
		To Hire of 2 Battoe Load of Goods for the Ind ^s :.....	2.	8.	—
		To 10 P ^s : Strowds of David Vander- heyden	£110.	—.	—
	2	P ^s : Penniston q ^t : 192 yards @ 3/3 ₤.....	31.	4.	—
	15	Pair Scissars...	7.	6	
			141.	11.	6
		To 16 Packs Leather from D ^o : W ^t : 913½ ^{lb} @ 4/6 ₤.....	£205.	10.	9
	2	D ^o ...D ^o ...71 @ 4/9.....	16.	17.	3
		To Jacob Sanders for 1. Ct —. 1 th Lead 56/	222.	8.	—
		To Jacob Cecheona Son in lieu of a Gun.....	2.	16.	6
		To John of the Senecas 2 Dol- lars to release a silver Arm Band pawned for Rum....	1.	12.	—
			—.	16.	—
	6	To Thomas chief of Aghqua- gey to buy a Saddle to ride home to Muster his People & bring them up to go to War immediately	4.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Aug st	6 To 33 Yards Frize to the High-landers for Stockings @ 8/. } £13. 4. —		
	⌘ }		
	To 18 Ells Ozenbrigs to D ^o . } —. 18. —		
	for Pouches..... }		
	To 22 green Ratteen for Mr: Kennedy & the Cadets @ 14/. ⌘..... } 15. 8. —		
	To 57 Coat Buttons & 4 Sticks Mohair to D ^o } —. 10. 1½		
	To Cap ^t : M ^c :Ginn for 100 Days Pay at 10/. Sterlg... } 87. 10. —		
	To Cechionas Wife for 3 Hangers pawned by the River Indians for Liquor... } —. 10. —		
	To an Indian called Pidgeon a Dollar } —. 8. —		
	To 5 Seneca Warriors to purchase Provisions..... } 2. 10. —		
	To a Doctor for cureing a Young Ind ^s : hand which was shott by Accident..... } 9. 15. 6		
	To Batt. Vroman for Loding & Victuals for him dureing the time he was there..... } 4. 8. —		
	To Giddeon Hawley for a Cow for the Delawares..... } 4. 16. —		
	To Aron a Mohawk in lieu of a Gun } 1. 12. —		
	To David Vanderheyden for 5 C ^t : Lead at 52/. ⌘ & freight here } 13. 18. —		
	To 6 Doz. Knives..... } 3. —. —		
	To 1 Cow of Mr: Clause..... } 5. —. —		
	To Peter a Conajoh ^{ee} : Ind ⁿ : to buy a Sheep for a feast going to War..... } —. 18. —		
	To 7 Scoharee Ind ^s : for a War Dance Cash } 2. 16. —		

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Aug st	6	To an Ox bought of Jacob the Ind ⁿ : for the Delawares coming here at Tiannaderra 16 Dollars	£6.	8.	—
		To a Delaware who brought up some Delawares from there to go to War 30 Dollars...	12.	—.	—
		To another Delaware a Leading Man, a Plow.....	4.	—.	—
		To Sundry Indians Cash viz ^t : Nickus Rutt &ca.....	16.	—.	—
		To 200 Bushels of Ind ⁿ : Corn bought by my Factor at New York at 3/. ⑈...	£30.—.	—	—
		To Cartage 5/6. ½ Measur ^g . 5/. Bag Hire 2/	—.	12.	6
		To 47¾ yds Tinsel Lace @ 4/6 ⑈... 10.15. 6	41.	8.	—
		To 5 Fatt Hogs £10 & 1 Sheep 16/. for the Indians.	10.	16.	—
		To Making 257 Coarse Indian Shirts @ 6 ^d ⑈.....	6.	8.	6
		To D ^o ...21 fine .. D ^o ... 2/..	2.	2.	—
		To 3 Trips with a Battoe to Schenectady for Prov ^s :....	3.	12.	—
		To 1 Fatt Sheep for the Indians.	—.	16.	—
		To 1 Dollar gave an Ind ⁿ : that went to Schenectady to inform again a Man that Sold Rum to the Ind ^s :.....	—.	8.	—
		To 3¼ Ells Scarlet Frize for Ind ⁿ . Stockings @ 25/. ⑈...	4.	1.	3
		To 1 doz. Womens Hose of Ferrall Wade	3.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Aug st	6 To 12 Ells Russel....@ 3/ Ⓕ.	£1.	16.	—
	To 1 P ^s : Muslin to Ruffle Shirts.	7.	—.	—
	7 To 9 Sk. Pease.....	1.	16.	—
	To David Vanderheyden as Ⓕ			
	his Letter will appear Viz ^t :			
	4 P ^s : Red Strowds.....			
	@ £11...Ⓕ £44.—.—			
	5 D ^o : Blue D ^o : 11.. 55.—.—			
	1 D ^o : Black D ^o :.... 12.—.—			
	2 D ^o : Aurora..15.. 30.—.—			
	10 D ^o : Gartering 8/.. 4.—.—			
	30 D ^o : D ^o :...7/... 10.10.—			
	Freight of D ^o : to }			
	my House ... }	1.10.	6	
		157.	—.	6
	8 To Jn ^o : Wells for supplying the } Southern Ind ^s : with Pro- } visions as Ⓕ Accounts & } Receipts }	25.	8.	2
	To 6 Barrels Beer for War } Dances of Jell ^s : Funda..... }	4.	16.	—
	9 To 2 Battoes hired 4 Trips to } Schenectady for Corn..... }	9.	12.	—
	To 2 Expresses to Albany to } Lord Loudoun }	2.	—.	—
	10 To 2 Fatt Cows of Mark Reece } for the Indians..... }	7.	5.	—
	To ½ Ct: Sugar.....	1.	15.	—
11 & 12	To sundy: Ind ^s : who were } lately at my House 150 Dol- } lars }	60.	—.	—
13	To Cash to Cap ^t : Butler to pay } for Indian Scouts by Gen ^l . } Shirley }	145.	11.	7
	To a Fatt Cow of Brant the } Indian }	5.	—.	—
	To 1 D ^o : of M ^{rs} . Miller for } the Ind ^s }	5.	—.	—
	To an Ind ⁿ : who took up & } brought me a Deserter..... }	2.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Aug st 13	To an Ind ⁿ : who lost his Wmp ^m : &ca, in the Action at Lake George.....	£2.	8.	—
	To Thomas Harris for bringing up 50 Skipple Corn to Flints for the Aghquagey Ind ^s : with a Battoe.....	1.	4.	—
	To the Widdow Butler for Making 67 Shirts @ 6 ^d Ⓢ.	1.	13.	6
	To Will ^m : Powells Wife for D ^o ... 63 D ^o ...6.....	1.	11.	6
	To Squaws for Making 8 Pr: Shoes for Kennedys Men..	—.	6.	—
	To Peter Conin Smith for Mendg. Indian Axes &ca..	19.	6.	3
	To Jellous Funda as Ⓢ Acc ^{tt} : for Beer & Rum &ca.....	24.	3.	—
	To 2 Battoes with Ind ⁿ : Corn for the Six Nations.....	2.	8.	—
	To 4 Silk Handkfs: for the Partys for Signals.....	1.	12.	—
	To an Express to Lord Loudoun w th : Intelligence from Niagra &ca	1.	—.	—
	To another to Gen ^l . Webb w th : the same Intelligence.....	1.	4.	—
	To the 2 Ind ^s : who brought me the Intelligence from the Carrying Place.....	2.	10.	—
	To another Ind ⁿ : from Harke-mars w th : Letters.....	—.	10.	—
16	To Cash p ^d : 11 Warriors of Conojoh ^{ee} : in lieu of Guns @ 32/. Ⓢ.....	17.	12.	—
	To D ^o : 12 of said Party.... in D ^o . of Hangers 6/.....	3.	12.	—
	To 1 in lieu of Shooes 6/. & 5 in lieu of Strowds @ 16/. Ⓢ. 80/.	4.	6.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Aug st	16	To Barnt Ten Eyke Silver Smith for sundrys for War- riors	£100.	—.	—
		To Cash to buy an Ox for the Conojoh ^{ce} : Warriors at the Castle	4.	—.	—
		To 16 Coffins made to Bury Ind ^s : who dyed here @ 6/. ⌘	4.	16.	—
	17	To 2 doz. Hose 38/. & 1 Bason 2/6	2.	—.	6
		To 3 th : Thread 24/. & 8 Ells Camblett 32/	2.	16.	—
	18	To above 80 Delawares on their way home for Pro- visions	8.	—.	—
	20	To 11800 Black Wampum . . .	14.	15.	—
		To Richard Cartwright for 4. Ct. 4 th Nett of Tobacco @ 33/. ⌘	6.	12.	—
		To David Vanderheyden as ⌘ Acc ^{tt} : Viz ^t			
		2 Large Blankets . . . £1. 4.—			
		2 Blankets Strowds. 1.10.—			
		2 Ells Strowds & a } —.16. 6 Lap			
		1 Indian Blanket . . . —. 9.—			
		2 P ^s : Gimps —.12.—			
		2 Beeves 1 Ox & 1 Bull 6.—.—			
		£10.11. 6			
		4 P ^s : Blue Strowds @ £ 11.—.—⌘. 44.—.—			
		1 D ^o : Blankets 11.—.—			
		5 Ct: Lead . .52/... 13.—.—			
		1 P ^s : Welch Cottons } 15. 2. 3 qt: 93 yds. .3/3.. }			
		4 D ^o : Padusuoy } 3. 4.— Ribbond .16/. }			

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Aug st	20	6 Doz. Knives..8/.	£2. 8.—			
		20 th : Virmillion. 12/	12.—.—			
		freight of D ^o : to my House Wagg ^s : & Battoes	2. 5.—	£113.	10.	9
		To expences of the Ind ^s : at Albany & Schenectady when I brought down the News of Oswegoe being Invested....		8.	16.	6
	24	To Cash to a Party of 13 Aghquageys in lieu of Shirts &ca		10.	8.	—
		To D ^o : to 18 Delawares going with me towards Oswegoe in lieu of Sundrys.....		8.	16.	—
	26	To Harkemars Acc ^{ts} : of some Exp ^s : while at his House as ⌘ Acc ^{ts} :.....		15.	4.	5
	27	To Conradt Franks D ^o : for D ^o : while at the German Flatts		3.	18.	3
	28	To sundy. Ind ^s : Cash to pur- chase some Necessarys....		16.	—.	—
	29	To Horse Hire & Pastureage... To some Expresses to Ind ^s		10.	10.	—
				4.	16.	—
	31	To Stores & Battoe Hire to the Flatts & back again.....		26.	18.	—
Sept ^r .	1	To Smiths Work viz ^t . mend ^s . Guns, Hatchets &ca. there. }		1.	7.	10
	4	To Abraham Cap ^t . of a Party of Mohawk Warriors going to War w th : his Party Cash to buy 2 Hogs for a feast &ca		4.	—.	—
		To Cash advanced by Mr: Croghan to Sundy. Ind ^s : as ⌘ Acc ^{ts} :		14.	—.	—
		To 5 Cows for the Indians @ £4.—⌘		20.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Sept ^r .	4	To 9 Hogs for D ^o ...1.5.—...	£11.	5.	—
		To 18 Sheep for D ^o 14/...	12.	12.	—
		To 27 th : Nails for Coffens &ca..	1.	7.	—
		To 3 Wool Hatts to Ind ^s ..6/..			
	6	To Cash in lieu of a Hanger, & 2 Rolls Gartering to War- riors	—.	18.	—
		To 101 Axes of Piter Conin as ⌘ Account	15.	3.	—
	7	To W ^m : Printup Smith for mending Guns Axes &ca..	3.	18.	6
		To a Battoe Load of Corn brought from Schenectady..	1.	4.	—
	10	To Cap ^t : Peter Schyler for the Pay of Twenty five Men posted at Conajoharee Fort from the 10 July to the 10 Inst. being 62 days himself at 8/. ⌘ & the Men at 2/2 ⌘.	192.	14.	4
		To Peter Schyler for 4 Skipple Corn given to poor Squaws.	—.	10.	—
		To Cap ^t : Mark Petry for Building the Oneida Fort..	591.	18.	—
		To Elizabeth Potman for mak ^g . 24 Coarse & 5 fine Ind ⁿ . Shirts	1.	2.	—
		To a Conajoharee Ind ⁿ : for a Gun returned 4 Dollars....	1.	12.	—
		To David of Scoharee who headed a Party from that place	1.	4.	—
		To Making 5 large Belts, a skin & thread	2.	5.	—
		To 3 Rangers Inlisted viz ^t : James Glenn W ^m : & Jn ^o . Hair	1.	4.	—
		To 2 Oneida Ind ^s : who went to Oswegoe for Intelligence, & brought an Acc ^{tt} : of the state of the place and the Frenches evacuating it	16.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Sept ^r .	10	To Commissions paid my Factors at Alb ^y . for receiving & forwarding Goods, Provisions, Money &ca.	£70.	—.	—
		To D ^o : for Purchasing Goods &ca to the Am ^t : of £8050. —. at 2½ [¢] Cent.	201.	5.	—
		To 7 Men whites & Ind ^s : sent to see what the French had done at Oswegoe & whither they were there yet or not..	22.	8.	—
	14	To Rob ^t : Flints Acco ^{ts} : of Prov ^s : to a Number of River Ind ^s : Delawares Shawanese &ca com ^g . to a Meeting here.	14.	11.	6
		To Arent Stevens Interpreter as [¢] Account for sundry disbursements	7.	8.	—
		To David of Scoharee who came w th : 6 young Men to go to War, Cash to send home to pay for Cutting his Grain &c.	5.	—.	—
		To Building a Fort for the Scoharee Ind ^s . at Scoharee.	125.	—.	—
	15	To 7 Caiyouga Ind ^s : from Chughnect who Joined Monocatuths Party going to War to Canada Cash for familys returning to purchase Prov ^s :	5.	12.	—
		To David Vanderheyden for 2 P ^s : blue Strowds	£22.	—.	—
		1 P ^s : Blankets			
		q ^t : 20	10.	—.	—
		1 D ^o : Welch			
		Cottons q ^t . 99 yards @ 3/3	16.	1.	9
		[¢]			
			48.	1.	9

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Sept ^r .	15	To an Old blind Indian to buy some Bread	—.	2.	—
		To a Battoe sent to Schenectady for some Goods & Corn. }	£1.	4.	—
	16	To a Tuscarora Warrior Cash to buy something fresh for his Sick Wife. }	—.	8.	—
		To an Ind ⁿ . 3 Dollars for a Gun.	1.	4.	—
		To an Oneida Ind ⁿ : going to War, for his family 3 Dollars }	1.	4.	—
		To Peter Wraxall Esq ^r : Sect ^y . for himself and Deputy &c. at 10/. Sterlg. ₤ day from the 1 st : May 1755 to the 1 st : Aug st : 1756 is 1 Year & a Quarter is £228. 2. 6 at 80 ₤ Ct: }	410.	12.	6
		To Nicholas De Graafe & John Vroman for Building the Seneca Fort as ₤ Account, & 75 th : Nails. }	669.	5.	—
	24	To a poor Squaw lost her Husband viz ^t . Tho ^s : at the Lake }	—.	8.	—
		To 2 Ind ^s : sent on the Scout for Ticonderogo but was stoped by Lieu ^t . Kennedy at Lake George. }	3.	4.	—
	25	To 2 Mohawk Ind ^s : who lost 2 Horses by the 44 Regm ^t : coming down from the Flatts. they were Shott, to make them easy. }	8.	—.	—
	26	To Leather for Indian Shoes purchased of some Seneca Ind ^s : 35 th : at 5/. ₤ }	8.	15.	—
		To an Express sent to call the River Ind ^s : from Otsegy Lake }	1.	10.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Sept ^r .	26	To another D ^o : to call D ^o . from Scoharee.....	£1.	—.	—
		To D ^o : w th : Capt ⁿ : Butler to call down the Six Nations..	4.	15.	—
		To D ^o : to call the Aughquagey Ind ^s : 3 Ind ^s . at 45/. ₤....	6.	15.	—
	27	To Tioguanda an Onondaga Chief Warrior who come to me w th : Intelligence from Canada, also to go with me to the Lake..Cash.....	5.	16.	—
		To 2 Deer Skins for Ind ⁿ . Shoes bought by Arent Stevens	1.	8.	—
		To a Tuscarora Young Ind ⁿ : to buy a Draw Band going to the Lake	—.	8.	—
	28	To 2 Expresses to Albany with Intelligence	2.	—.	—
		To a Battoe with Arms & Goods for the Ind ^s	1.	4.	—
		To a fatt Beast for the Ind ^s : going to Fort Edward.....	4.	—.	—
	29	To Mr: Croghan to pay 2 River Ind ^s : for Guns 6 Dollars	2.	8.	—
		To Seths Hance to Buy a French Blanket	—.	10.	—
		To Cash to a Number of Della- wares returned to Scoharees after their Friends had gone to Fort Edward with Mr: Croghan besides Cloathing for 24 of them.....	4.	16.	—
Octbr.	1	To Cash p ^d : Stevens the Inter- preter for 12 th Leath ^r . for Shoes 5/. ₤.....	3.	—.	—
		To Jeremy Quack for 3½ days Plowing for the River Ind ^s . To 3 Expresses sent to Lord Loudoun & for Ind ⁿ : Goods.	1.	15.	—
			3.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Octbr.	3	To Jacob an Aughquagey Ind ⁿ : for to pay for a Mare having lost his here.	£3.	4.	—
		To the young Men of Scoharee for a Feast on their setting out to Join the Army, as Usual with them.	2.	18.	—
		To John Abeel for Expences occurred calling down the Six Nations, & for the Hire of Harmanus Peters & Horse 19 Days	15.	5.	—
		To Davil Van- derheyden for 2 P ^s . Pennis- ton	£33.	16.	—
	6	P ^s : $\frac{3}{4}$ Garlix.. @ 55/.	16.	10.	—
	20	P ^s : Gartering..	7.	10.	—
			57.	16.	—
		To James Stewart for driving 8 Cattle to Onondaga, was out 37 Days @ 6/. p	11.	2.	—
	8	To Arent Stevens going to Conajoharee to bring down the Warriors	—.	16.	—
		To Peter Schyler as p Acco ^{tt} : for Sund ^s : Supplied on S ^d : Occasion	3.	10.	—
	9	To D ^o : for an Ox for a War Dance for said Castle.	4.	—.	—
		To Old Hendricks Widdow Cash	1.	12.	—
		To Nickus Chief Sachem of said Castle	4.	—.	—
	12	To some Seneca Women re- turning Home, for Provisions To Sund ^y . Conajoharees for their Familys while out with me	1.	16.	—
			12.	14.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1756

Octbr. 12	To Sundy. Mohawks for...			
	Ditto. while Ditto	£10.	17.	—
	To 36 Yards flowerd Serge for the Ind ^s	6.	6.	—
	To 4 th : Nails 4/. & 7 Ells red Serge for Flags 21/.....	1.	5.	—
	To a Fatt Beast £5. — & a Hog 20/. for the Ind ^s	6.	—.	—
	To Mr: Croghan for Sund ^s : for the Ind ^s : as P Account....	9.	12.	3
	To David Vanderheyden for Sund ^s : as P Account....	37.	—.	9
	To George Rightmyer for Mend ^g : Guns, Axes &c, as P Acc ^{tt}	19.	8.	6.
		£ 10746.	8.	7½
	The Crown Dr ^s :			
	To the first Years Expences....	£ 8873.	—.	6
	To the Second....D ^o	10746.	8.	7½
		£ 19619.	9.	1½

1755

Ap ^l . 26 th	By the Nett Proceeds of Bills of Exchange to the Amount of £1000 Sterlg. received from Oliver DeLancy Esq ^r : by Gen ^l : Braddocks Order New York Currency.....	£1705.	—.	—
	By 1000 £ Sterlg. by D ^{os} : Warrant on Will ^m : Johnson Esq ^r : Deputy Pay Master Gen ^l : at 4/8 Sterlg. P Dollar for w ^h : I rec ^d : of Oliver DeLancy this Curr ^{ey} :.....	1714.	—.	—

JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued

1755

Aug st 13	By Cash received of John Watts Esq ^r : £ Gen ^l : Shirleys Order on Abraham Mortier Esq ^r : for £ 3000-Sterl ^g . this Currency.....	£5142.	17.	—
	By Cash allowed by the Province of New York for defraying part of the Ind ⁿ : Expences in the Expedition.	457.	—.	—
	By Cash received of the Boston Commissary being the Ball ^s : in his hands of the Quota of that Governm ^t : for defraying the Expence of 300 Ind ^s : the remainder of which Quota he gave in Provisions.....	27.	14.	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
	By Cash received of John Watts Esq ^r : £ Gen ^l : Shirleys War-rant upon the Deputy Pay Master Gen ^l : for £ 5000 Sterl ^g . to be paid at 4/8 Sterl ^g . £ Dollar makes New York Currency	£8571.8.7		
	To Mr: Watts Commissions on Receiving and Paying at £ 2- £ Ct.	171.8.6		
		8400.	—.	1
		17446.	11.	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
	Ballance due.....	2172.	17.	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
		19619.	9.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Errors, & Omissions Excepted			
	W ^m . JOHNSON			

¹ Giveing Indians Commissions, & paying them by the Day when upon Service was first introduced last Year by Gen^l. Shirley. which besides the additional weight of expense upon the Crown, hath enflamed the natural avidity of the Indians in all other respects and greatly encreased the Indian expences in the foregoing Acc^t., wherein the Sum I paid by Gen^l. Shirleys Orders are accordingly entered.— I have warmly remonstratted to the Indians upon the unreasonableness, & Novelty of this Custom of paying them by the Day, which they will not now give up, what passed on this Subject will appear in the Copy of my Indian Transactions herewith transmitted page 31. 32. 33 ² — — Another cause of greatly encreaseing Indian expences is the selling Rum to the Indians for their Cloathing, Arms &ca by which Means those valuable Articles are useless to them, and lost to the Crown. I have frequently been oblinded to Arm and Cloath many Indians three times over upon this Account. this pernicious & villanous Sale of Rum is carried on cheifly by the low Dutch Inhabitants of Albany, Schenectady & this County. There is a Severe & penal Law of this Province against it, but so Ill executed by the Magistrates (who are often themselves y^e. Offenders) that it serves to little good purpose.

INDORSED: New York

Account of Indian Expences

from the Commencement of Sr. Will^m.

Johnson's Management to October 1756.

Rec^d. with his Letter to the Board

dated y^e 10th. Nov^{br}. 1756.

Rec^d. Febr^y. y^e 11th.
Read ——— 17th. } 1757.

Ll. 86.

¹ The part which follows is in Johnson's handwriting.

² *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:184–85.

DEPOSITION OF CORNELIG FEELING

D.

Fort Johnson 13, 8^{br}. 1756

The Deposition of Cornelig Feeling who was taken Prisoner with John Hawl and his the Deponents Negroe in the beginning of June last by 2 Anakankos 3 Skaghtikoks and 1 Missaga Indⁿ.

The Depon^t Said

That when he wth the abovementioned People was making hay at the All Place¹ near Skonactady they were fired upon by the Enemy and one Christian Hall was killed when the Ind^s: run in upon the Rest and took them Prisoners; the Indians carried them along towards Lake George, and the second Day when encamping near Albany River his Negroe watched the oportunity when the Ind^s. were busy wth. killing a Bear and run away. the 4th Day he passt to the Westward of Lake George att 8 Miles from the English Camp. and the 7th Day arrived at Tiyondarogo where he was brought before the french Commanding Officer who askd him about the forces at Lake George when he told him that <he> did not know their Number exactly but that he saw them march very numerous toward that Lake. He staid there 2 Days during which time he discove<rd> no more but 8. or 10. Cannon whereof only 4 were mounted towards the Lake the rest were not mounted; Only the west Side of the Camp was forti<fied> the East Side the french were busy with, and that <he> reconed not to be above 2000 Men at Tiyondaroga. From thence he was brought to Crownpoint, where he found no more but ab^t 50 or 60 old soldiers in Garrison. he met with two Dutch Soldiers who told him that if the English were to come now they might march into the Fort unmolested; he heard that most of the French Troops were drawn towards Oswego.

In 3 Days after he arrived at Montreal where he was brought before the Gov^r. who likewise asked the strength of our Army

¹ The *Aal Plaats* (Eel Place), the eastern boundary of the town.

at Lake George and when he thought they were to attack Crown Point, Deponent said as before that he could not tell the Certain Number but he thought there were ab^t 4000 Men but did not know when they were to attack C^r p^t. but they were not to tarry long at Lake George;

After which he was sold by the Ind^s. to a Baker who ordered him to work at his Sons Farm which was ab^t 2 Miles out of the Town and after being 2 Weeks with said Bakers son he fell sick wth. a flux and returned to town where he remained 3 Weeks during which time a Report came that a French Fleet was before Boston to besiege it, and that all the English forces at Lake George were drawn off to the Relief of Boston, that then immediately the French Gen. who lived opposite the Depon^ts. Lodging gave marching Orders, and all the Men in Montreal and the adjacent Plantations were impressed to march towards Wood Creek and that the General himself sat off the 17th of Sept^r. Last, when the Depon^t. thought it most convenient to make his Escape; he spoke to an Albany Man Antony Bradt to make off with him but he dreaded being discovered and refused it but told him of a New england Man who was taken at Lake George who would make his Escape if he could, when the Depon^t. told the New englander of his Design he immediately agreed to make of with him and accordingly on Saturday the 18th of Sept^r last ab^t. Midnight he had a Canoe ready with his Camerade sat over St. Lawrence River, in 8 Days came near Crownpoint where it rained and he laid still 3 Days and from thence in 4 Days arrived at Lake George;— During his stay at Monreal he observed that Provisions was very <scarce, that a Soldier had not> more than 1-2 lb. of Bread and a little Meat;

That he did not hear of any Vessells being arrived at Quebeck from old France during his stay.

That when he passt Tiyyondaroga a going he heard of Oswegos being taken and 6 Days after his arrival at Monreal all the English Prissoners came down the River in Battoes they were received well and some of the Officers the next Day rid in Chairs wth. the french Ladies;

That all the Accounts he could get of the Siege of Oswego were agreeing, that the French never could have taken Oswego in Case our People would have made the least Resistance, for the french by the Generals own Confession had no more but one Barrell of Powder left, and after throwing 2 shells into the Fort which killd Col Mercer, another Officer and 3 Men, then y^e waded thro the River, and while Col. Schuyler was preparing to receive them the Drums beat for Quarter so they Marched into the Fort and took Possession of it:

That all the officers and most all the Men were sent to Quebec:

That the taking of Oswego was <dis>liked. <by all the French Indians and one Caghnawaga In>dian called Thom Wileman was crying like a Child when he heard of Oswegoe being taken and said to Antony Brat the Albany Prisoner, that this Affair might turn out for the Interest of the English for the Indians would no more join them after this:

This Depon^t said that he heard the french could not have persuaded the Caghnawaga Ind^s. to join them till they threatened to kill them or drive them out of their Country.

That it was told in Monreal that 8 french Men were killed by the Caghnawagie.

That the french Ind^s. were very scant of Provisions and obliged to sell their Wampum &ca to the farmers for food.

That he believed the Caghnawagas and other french Ind^s would willingly come away if they could do it without being hindred from the french for there was a general Disgust ag^t the French amongst them This Deponent observed in his way going that the advanced party of the french which encamped at the first Narrows¹ this Side Tiyondarogo could without the least Difficulty be cut off as they had not the Least fortifications <then, but were busy making a fort there which> if they once could compleat they <might keep> any Army from passing the Narrows; <when> the Contrary if the English would make themselves Masters of that Post they might think themselves to be in possession of Crownpoint.

¹ Lake Champlain.

further the Deponent saith that he understood the French were to make their first Push at Fort Edward for which Purpose the whole Army was to march up Wood Creek, and that a Great Number of horses were transported by Water from Moneal to draw the Cannon the Deponent believes that the french will be 15000 strong and make a formidable Attack as they were full of spirits since the Taking of Oswego but before that they were quite dispaired and in fears of the English Armys Approach; And that he believed that they would not make a long Resistance if warmly received by the English at Fort Edward of which he did not doubt.

That a Body of 400 French and Indians marchd before the Army to cut off the Communication between fort Edw^d. & W^m. Henry.

That when he made his Escape at Midnight he was not challenged by any Centry and the Gates stood open, which he said was the Condition of the Garrison during <his being there otherwise he would not have had attempted> his Escape so freely.

That he heard when Oswego was taken the french Ind^s. were going to fall upon the English soldiers the Commanding Officer ordered some of his Men to fire upon them & killed 5 or 6 which occasioned a mutinous murmuring amongst all the Indians and was spread thro' all the Nations in Canada; Further the Deponent said not.

INDORSED: Fort Johnson October
13th: 1756
the Examination of John
Veele of Schenectady

EXAMINATION OF WILLIAM JOHNSON

The preceding is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 84, by the examination, dated October 26th, (taken before Colonel Cresap) of one William Johnson in Frederick county, Md., giving an account of a plot among Catholics to aid the French and a new account of the battle of Fort Duquesne. This paper was destroyed by fire.

FROM JOHN WATTS

A. L. S.

New York 28th. Octobr. 1756

DR SR

Mr Ogilvie being here I have waited for His Depart[ure] to forward you the inclosed Accompt, chiefly relating to Gen^r Shirleys second Warrant, & the remittances made known, leaving a Ballance of £572/5/6 in you favour, which waits your Order.

This a melancholly thing to reflect on the sad Issue of our Affairs both in Europe & America, how much has been in our power & how negligently & cowardly, if not treacherously, the most material parts have been conducted.

May God inspire us with more Virtue, or Slavery I think must be our portion. Under such barefac'd Corruptions, dissensions & Licentiousness nothing can succeed.

My compliments to any of my friends you may see. We have nothing Now to acquaint you with, I am very Truly

Dr. Sr.

Er. Your Obliged

humb. Serv^t.

JN^o. WATTS.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:169-71, is printed a letter from Johnson, of November 10th, to the lords of trade, discussing the loss of Oswego, Indian dissatisfaction and the bad results of neglecting Indian aid and intelligence.

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

L. S.¹*Albany, November 14th. 1756.*

SIR

Yesterday I had the favour of yours of the 13th, in which you acquaint me, that several of the Indian Officers, to whom I granted Commissions at your desire, and on your showing me it had been the Custom so to do, and that it was absolutely Necessary for carrying on the Service, dated October 29th, Had been employed for a great while prior to the dates of their Commissions, in consequence of Orders received by you, from Major General Shirley, who had neglected to give them Commissions, before he was suspended in his Command.

As Major General Shirleys directions to you for appointing those Indian Officers, was sufficient to Authorize you to appoint and employ them, I think they are entitled to their pay, as Stipulated from the time they were really employed.

Therefore I do authorize you to pay them, from the time you really employed them, Notwithstanding, the dates of the Commissions sign'd by me.

It may be thought that the shortest way of doing this would be by my dating those Commissions from the time those People really were employed, but that I do not chuse to do, as I have seen so bad a use made of that Practice and so much Confusion arise from it. Therefore have chuse to Authorize their being payed for their real Services in this way, and am with great regard

Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

LOUDOUN.

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

¹ Destroyed by fire.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

The preceding is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 84-85, by a copy of an account of a conference, held November 8-17 at Easton, Pa., by Lieutenant Governor William Denny, William Logan and Richard Peters of the council, and Benjamin Franklin, Joseph Fox, William Masters and John Hughes, commissioners, with Indian envoys, including Teedyuscung (printed in *Pa. Col. Rec.*, 7:313-38). Not destroyed by the fire.

INFORMATION GIVEN BY SAMUEL LAMB

D

[*Ft. Johnson 21 Novr. 1756*]

The Information <of Samuel Lamb> of Elizabeth Town in New Jersey a Battaux Man in Cap^t. Lines's. Comp^y:

He was taken in the begining of the Skirmish w^{ch}. Cap^t. Bradstreet had last June returning from Oswego.¹

He judges the Enemy amounted to about 300. French & Indians —

He was carried to an Island in Lake Ontario about 40 Miles from Oswego where there was a small Stockadoed Fort. there were 21 or 22 of our People taken besides him — he was carried from this Island to Montreal by water & did not stop either at Cadaraqui or Sweegachie.

He heard several of our Soldiers who were taken at Oswego say, that it was given up by Treachery & Cowardice & that the officers woud not let the Soldiers fight, and confirms all the other Intelligence w^{ch}. John Walker gives who he made his escape with from Montreal. he says several of our Soldiers told him that Col. Schuyler was against giving up the Fort & cried with vexation.

INDORSED: Information of John Walker & Sam. Lamb who made their Escape from Canada.

Ft. Johnson 21 Novr. 1756

¹ Bradstreet's successful fight at Battle island occurred on July 3d. See William Shirley to Henry Fox, July 26, 1756, *Correspondence of William Shirley*, ed C. H. Lincoln, 2:488-90.

INFORMATION GIVEN BY JOHN WALKER

D

<Fort Johnson 21 Nov^r. 1756

Psto ¹: Sr. W^m. > Johnson
 Edm^d. Atkin Esq^r.
 Mr. Croghan
 Peter Wraxall
 Sec^y.

The Information of <John Walker> of Patterson's Creek ² who has made his escape from Canada. he was taken the 29th of last May opposite to Col. Cressaps ³ by 4 Shawanese Indians & 4 frenchmen. he was well used by the Indians, & in 10 days arrived at F^t. Du Quesne where he was examined by the Command^t. about the state of fort Cumberland, ⁴ when the Command^t. told him that he could perceive he was telling Lies, upon w^{ch}. Walker replied that it would be to no purpose to examine him if he knew better than he did, upon w^h the Command^t. was angry & ordered him to be put in Irons & confined in the Dungeon where he remained 5 days. By what he could discover he does not think there were more than 50 Soldiers then in the Fort & about 40 Ind^s. round about it.

He was carried up the Ohio in a Batto in Irons & met 40 Cannoes full of Indians who were going down to Fort Du Quesne in order to go out to War as he judged by their Appearance & was told by one of the French men in the Battoe with him.

He was carried to Wynango ⁵ where there were about 14 Men in a small Fort & no Cannon & a few Indians round it. from thence he was carried to the Fort on the River De Beauf ⁶ w^h is a stockaded one & had about 30 Men in it & no Cannon, from

¹ Should be Prest, for Present.

² In West Virginia.

³ Colonel Thomas Cresap, of Maryland.

⁴ On Wills creek, Md.

⁵ Venango, an Indian town at the mouth of French creek.

⁶ French creek.

thence he was carried to presquile Fort¹ by Land in a Cart w^{ch} is about 20 Miles, he says this is a weak, square Log Fort & but few Men in it; from thence he went down Lake Erie to a small Fort 18 Miles from Niagara & from thence to Niagara by Land w^{ch} is a fine Waggon Road. Niagara is a large strong stone Fort with a <Pallisadoed Ditch round it, he was informed by one of the Soldiers who> was a Dutch Man <that there were but 6> Cannon there 12 P^{ds}. & 600 Men when he first came there, 400 of w^{ch} were embarked on board 4 vessells with him when he went from thence to Cadaraqui²—these Vessels carried, one 16 Guns 1. 12. 1. 8 y^e other 6 Guns. great Plenty of all sorts of Provisions at all the foregoing Forts except at Fort Du Quesne.

From Niagara he was carried in one of these Vessells to Cadaraqui in about 30 hours.

The Vessells cast Anchor close to the shoar at Cadaraqui where there is good landing upon a level Shoar.

Cadaraqui he thinks is not so strong a Fort as Niagara, but he was not suffered to go ashoar, he saw a vast Quantity of Provisions laying on the Shoar. he was there about 5 or 6 days in the begining of Aug^t., whilst he was there the French Army embarked to attack Oswego & a French Indian Trader called Bawbee told him there were 5500 French embarked to that Attack & that several Indians were to meet them by Land.

From Cadaraqui he went down the River St. Laurence to Montreal & in the way called at Sweegachie³ w^{ch}. is a small stockadoed Fort & a great many Indian Houses & Indians there.

When he arrived at Montreal he was carried before the Gov^r. who asked him the State of Fort Cumberland. after w^{ch}. he was sent to Jail & remained there a week. he was then sent out to Work at 15 livers a Month 10 of w^{ch}. the Gov^r. was to have & the Prisoner the rest w^{ch}. is done to all the English Prisoners who

¹ Now Erie, Pa.

² Fort Frontenac, on the site of Kingston, Can.

³ LaPrésentation, Oswegatchie, Ogdensburg.

<wont renounce their Religion. he worked> 5 weeks & then made <his Escape. He says> Bread is good & Plenty there but meat <kind scarce>

He saw & talked with many of our Soldiers who were taken at Oswego who often told him that if the officers had behaved well & encouraged the Men, they verily believed they could have beat the French off & he heard one of our Soldiers tell one of his officers that he'd be damned if he had not sold the Fort upon w^{ch}. the officer turned upon his Heel & said nothing, & that this was the common talk & belief of our Soldiers.

There was a very good Crop of Wheat this year in Canada but a bad Crop of Peas & their Cattle in general are very poor.

That the French Gen^l. & Troops w^{ch}. took Oswego went directly thro Montreal for Crown Point & a good many Indians, and Detachments of the Militia went with them.

That the French were under strong Apprehensions that we should take Montreal & several Families removed from their settlements on this side the River to Montreal & others sent their goods from Montreal to Quebec.

Montreal is Walled round about 3 foot thick & a great part tumbled down on the North side & no Cannon mounted, the Gates are not shut at night nor any guards kept.

They were healthy at Montreal but very sickly at Crown point by the Number of sick w^{ch}. came from thence.

He left Montreal the 14 of October when some of the Troops were returned & y^e rest s^d. to be coming & <met with nothing remarkable in his way thither. he heard> of no Men of War or Vessells arrived from Europe at Quebec while he was at Montreal.

That it was reported at Montreal that the French proposed this Winter to build a Fort or House at Oswego.

LORD LOUDOUN'S WARRANT AND PROPRIETORS' COMMENTS

The foregoing is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 85, by the Earl of Loudoun's warrant, drawn at Albany December 3d, to William Johnston, deputy paymaster general, for payment of £3000 sterling to Sir William Johnson; and observations, dated December 11th, of the Proprietors of Pennsylvania on Johnson's letter to the lords of trade, in which they deny that their land purchases are a ground of disaffection among the Susquehanna Indians and Six Nations (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:738-41; Q, 2:429-31). These papers were destroyed by the fire.

TO GEORGE CROGHAN

*Copy*¹

Fort Johnson 24 Novr 1756

SIR

You will proceed to Philadelphia as soon as you can or to any Part of that Province where the Good of His Majesties Indian Interest may require.

You are to endeavour all in your Power to find out the Disposition of such Indians as are still living in them Parts, and try all Means to convince them it is their Interest to continue Friends to the English and the Six Nations.

If you find them well inclined, then you will encourage them to come, and join His Majesties Arms here, or any where else they may be wanted next Spring.

You will also enquire into the Cause of the Delawares and Shawonese Behaviour to their Brethren the English in them Parts, and assure them, that if they will come, and let me Know wherein they are injured, I will endeavour to have Justice done them, so that, that unhappy Difference may be settled.

In case you can meet wth the old Onondaga Indian who lives near Shamokin I would have you employ him, and send him either to the general Meeting, soon to be held at Onondago,

¹ In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Manuscripts — Indian Affairs, 1734-1801, IV.

there to learn what passes at that Council, or to the Shawonese and Six Nations living at the Ohio, to Know their Resolutions; and give him in charge to loose no time, so that I may Know as soon as possible what he learns from them.

You may assure him he shall be well rewarded provided he exerts himself properly on this Occasion.

I wish you a good Journey and am

Sir

Your most humble Servant

Wm Johnson

To GEORGE CROGHAN Esq^r

Depty. Agent of Indian

Affairs for the Northern

District

A true Copy

R PETERS

GEORGE CROGHAN TO WILLIAM DENNY

Contemporary Copy

[*Philadelphia, December 13, 1756*]

[¹]
[] On []
[] the Indians made a com[] ated out of some
of their Lands, upon which [] acquainting your
Honour that more Goods were [] than could be
conveniently disposed of, it was agre[] you to propose to
them immediate satisfaction, which they refused, alledging they
were not the persons who had power to receive it, and as they
could not then finish the great Work the came about, that they
intended to come in the Spring and finish it. To which your
Honour was pleased to answe^r, you would be glad to meet them
at any time. From which I am of opinion, that the Government
cannot avoid giving the Indians a meeting to settle this or any
other difference that subsists between them: as I think it will be

¹ Lines missing here.

for the good of his Majesty's service to have these affairs speedily accommodated; and am also of opinion this meeting ought to be held before the first of March, for it's probable if it should be put off longer it may impede his Majesty's service, as the Indians may be called together in the Spring by Sir William Johnson to Join the Forces under the Command of his Excellency Lord Loudon, and as I have a deputation from Sir William Johnson for the Transacting of Indian affairs here, I assure Your Honour that I will do every thing in my power to settle in an amiable manner those differences and in the main Time let Sir William Johnson know that the Indians are to meet here and have his further Instructions on that head. I am of opinion if proper steps be taken that some of the Ohio Indians (who are the proper Indians to settle those affairs with) may be brought to this meeting

I am with respect your H^{rs}. most obedient Serv^t.

ADDRESSED: The Honourable
William Denny Esquire
Governor of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia

INDORSED: 13th Dec^r. 1756

Geo. Croghan

Philadelphia Decbr. 13th. 1756

Red in Council 14th. Dec^r.

Mr. Croghans Letter &
Opinion to Gov^r. Denny

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

In Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y., 7:208–15, are printed a letter, of December 27th, from Edmund Atkin, superintendent of the Indians of the southern department, to the lords of trade, describing official relations with Johnson, and a report of a conference between Atkin and the Six Nations at Fort Johnson, from November 21 to 23; and, 7:229–44, a journal of Johnson's proceedings with the Six Nations from September 20th to November 20th, in which he labored to restore their loyalty, together with a second account of Atkin's proceedings, November 21–23.

FROM JELLES FONDA

A. L. S.

Cach[nawago December 30 1756]

Sir William Cap^t. [] thells me that we may
 thake a [] to go with or By your orders and I have
 [] Barent Wempel Son of mindert Wempel to go
 with me. I can not thinck that I Could Do Without him for I
 have sene a Letter in albany that John Abele is to Be Down in
 the midst of Jannewary now a Comming and I now that Barent
 Wempel onderstands the Senneco tong Werry wele and is yerry
 wele nown among the Indgens there I have Agreed With him
 for five shillings p^r: Day if your honner thinks it two much then
 I shall give some of my wages to him Sir I hope that I have not
 Done amiss for to thake him if I have Bray Let me now and I
 shall send him Down agene Sir Depend on that shall Do acord-
 ing to the Best of Nowledge for the good of the service there.
 So No More But Yours in all throe frendship and Service

JELLES FONDA

ADDRESSED: To
 Sir William
 Johnson at
 Mount
 Johnson

INDORSED: Decbr. 30th. 1756
 Cap^{tn}. Fundas Letter
 concerning a Man
 to attend Him

FROM JAMES F. MERCER

*Copy*³

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart. at

Fort Johnson

SIR,

My hopes of seeing you here soon prevented me writing to you before — We have been much infested lately by the enemy Indians & our's seem to neglect us — scarce any of them coming near us — some of them pretend fear of the enemy while others entertain a jealousy of our having a design to cut them off which must be infused into them by some emmissary from Canada — Whatever may be the cause of their present coldness I have the satisfaction to assure you that none of them mett with the least offence during the course of this winter from any of the troops here — I still hope for the honor of your company —

I am with the most perfect regard,
Sir, your obliged & most obedient

humble servant,

James F. Mercer.²

¹ In Library of Congress, Force Transcripts, Miscellaneous, v. 3

² Lieutenant Colonel Mercer, in command at Oswego in 1756.

COST OF MAINTAINING AN INDIAN REGIMENT ¹

The Expence <of a Regiment of 500 Indians con>sisting of
Ten Companies <each fifty Men, and their> proper Officers,
at the following Rates viz^t.

Field Officers	Colonels pay £438 Sterlg. p^r Annum	}	
	is the Curr ^y : of £750		
	Lieu ^t Col ^o . £310 D ^o . p^r D ^o .		
	is the Curr ^y . of £531		
	Major £273 — 15 D ^o . p^r D ^o .	}	
	is the Curr ^y : of £469.....		
			£1750.

10. Capt ^{ns} .	@ 8/ p^r Day	Curr ^y . is £146 p^r An	1460
10. Lieut ^s .	@ 6/ p^r Day	 109 p^r D ^o	1095
10. Ensigns	@ 4/ p^r Day	 73 p^r D ^o	730
20. Serjants	@ 3/ p^r Day	 54. 15 p^r	1120
500. Men	@ 2/ p^r Day	 36-10	18250

Bounty of £4 to each Man

and Sergeant amounts to..... 2080

Provisions for 520

FROM DANIEL WEBB ²

Gen^l. Webb desires that Sr: W^m: Johnson will be so good as
to send him word, what quantity of powder & Ball will be neces-
sary to be delivered out to the Militia, that it may be ordered
accordingly as far as the present stock will permitt.

11 o'clock

¹ Date uncertain, probably some time in 1756; author not positively known, though probably Johnson.

² Probably written in the summer of 1756.

FROM WILLIAM BAKER

L. S.¹

(Via N. Y. Packet 8 Jan 1757)

Londⁿ. 6 Jan^y. 1757.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON BART.

Triplicate/

S^R.

The 20 Nov^r. last I was honour^d with your letters of 4 August,² advising me you had employed Mr. John Pownall to receive the money voted you by Parliam^t. last Session and had directed him to pay what he so rec^d to me w^{ch} you desire I would lay out in y^e. funds for you. Mr. Pownall has put every thing cur^t. at y^e exchequer, is endeavouring to get the 6^d. in the Pound changeable³ on these kind of Issues saved to you and in which he will no doubt succeed and in a few days the holidays being then over, he will pay me the money.

I will take care to lay the same out in some of our Stocks of which you shall be advised, for the present it must be put into my name, but it will be best to have it transferred into your own name so soon as it can be done, for w^{ch} purpose I will send you a proper form of a Power of Attorney; this I cant do now because I have not determined the particular fund in which I shall place your money.

I heartily congratulate you on your Successes, honours & rewards and beg leave to be accounted among those who have the most sincere respect & friendship for you I am

Sr.

Your most hum Serv^t.[WILLIAM BAKER ⁴]

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² Not found.

³ "Chargeable" no doubt was the word in the original.

⁴ Signature supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

[Oneida 6 Jan^y. 1757]

Yesterday We arived here & this [] a meeting of the Chiefs of this Nation, delivered [] Messuage to them, which they recev'd very thankfully. They promise as soon as their deputies return from Canada to Give me a full account of what News they bring from thence.

They declair they Wont Go to any Meeting on call of any Goverment whatsoever but look on you as the only person that has to do with them,

They say the Great Councell to be at Onondaga can not be as yet for that the Cinakass are Gone To Call the Tweetwees the Adawadeanies & the Indians liveing on the Ohio to Said Meeting. if the latter refuses laying down the Hatachett and coming to Said Councell they May Expect Death, as soon as those Cinakass Returns, and the Bunt from Cannada the Councell will begin,

They Will not Suffer the French Emisarys to come among them, And should be Extreamply Glad of A Smith and A Mercht to be in their Castle,—

When we came here found Many of the Indians drunk which continues Yet. The Sachams Complained of the Great Quantitys of Rum Sold them at the German Flatts of late which keeps their people constantly intoxicated —

They desire you'd forbid it, Excepting onely allowing them, to have some, such as at Marriges Christings & Burials and then that Nich^s. Wever Uria Wever and one Crissman May be allowed to sell it them, that is they may have their choice to buy of Either

We propose God willing to lodge at Tuskarorah tomorrow. The Gentlemen with me desire their Duty to you.

I am

Sir Yr. Most Dutifull Hum^{le} Serv^tTHO^s. BUTLER

7th Jan^y.

We had little rest here last night on account the drunken Indians. Some [of] the Chiefs of this and the Tuskarora Nation Are Going Down to Condole the Death of the Mohawks of the two Castles kanocwayeasa¹ will be the bearer of this —

The Indians Seem desireious My Broth^r. should keep some small things to sell them. Which If you thing proper he will do —

ADDRESSED: To

Sir William Johnson Barn^t.

att

Fort Johnson

INDORSED: Cap^t. Tho^s. Butlers Letter

Onieda 6 Jan^y. 1757

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

<1757 Jan^r: 9th — Halfway Connossaraga² & Onondaga>

SIR

I am To acquaint you that here we met with Mr. Abeel.³ but first must inform you that Several Indians on our way hither have Told us we Were Going To Death &^c. We did not mind them, the Sinakas here with Mr. Abeel tells us the Same, and Barant Wemp, whom they seem to have a Regard for, advise him to Return home. Mr. Abeel tells us its very dangerous, That the Indians wont protect us & that a party was fiting out To come & take him, John Cair & his Brother⁴ are out among the Indians, Mr. Abeel prentends he will Return again but the Indians with him say otherways. Silver Heels who has talkt

¹ Kanaghquiesa, an Oneida chief.

² Canaseraga, in Madison county, N. Y.

³ John Abeel, father of Cornplanter, the Seneca chief.

⁴ Chabert Joncaire and his brother'n Joncaire-Clauzonne.

with these Indians tell us he think it Dangerius, We shall proceed To morrow for Onadaga but we hear there are but few at home, if we dont hear better News belive we shall Return, and think you wont take it amiss, as we find we cant have any Chance for our lives. and the lads with us Choose To Go back. Alb^t. Ryckman I lern is Going out on the Hunt with the Onondagas for fear of The French Indians. These Sinakass with Abeel tell Barant Wemp jest now while I am writing That Abeel was constantly so feard that he did not Venter out side the Fort & Got these Indians in A hurrey To bring him away. this party of Indians That are out I lern are Chiefly Sinakas & Kiyogos So that if we meet them We shant know them from Enemy till they fire upon us Which Gives them all The advantage. I forgott To Acquaint you <that> the Morning we left Onida a young Indian Sett of from that for Swegatia with onely a little bundle on his back.

The Gentlemen with me Desires Their Duty to you

I am

Sir

Y^r. Most Dutifull Hum^{le} Ser^t.

THO^s. BUTLER

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

A. L. S.

<Albany Jan^y. 14th 1757

SIR>

am Just <now informed that 2400> men are arrived at New <York — My Lord> set a billeting them and sent only six <to his> old acquaintance m^r Ol: Delancy, he <zounzed> and blood and Owz^d. at the Soldiers, this was told my Lord, he sent Mr. Ol. half a dousen more he sent my Lord word if matters was to go so he would leave the Country, my Lord sent him word he would be glad of it, then the troops would have the

whole house — I really thought this so Extraordinary, I must communicate it to you —

I am

Sir your most obed^t

Serv^t:

WILLIAM CORRY

FRENCH OFFICER'S ORDERS

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 86, by orders in French of the commanding officer at Fort Niagara to the store-keeper, from October 27, 1756, to January 17, 1757. This was destroyed by fire.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER AND JELLES FONDA

A. D. S.¹

Mohawks Country Janⁿ: 1757

A Report of Thomas Butler & Jelles Fonda at their return from Onondagah

Agreeable To Orders December 30th. Set out from Fort Johnson. Cap^t: John Butler & Lieu^t: Steven Schuyler went to the lower Castle of the Mohawks to buy Snow Shoos On their return told us that the Indians finding where they were Going Said it was Great Pitty Such likely Young men Shou'd be kill'd which they thought was likely To be the Case where they were Going. & that prehaps privatly.

31st. Two Indians of The lower Castle of the Mohawks Came To Jelles Fondas the One known by the Name of Haniss Crane The other One Ey'd Lourance. On hearing where Mr. Fonda was Going Said it was not Safe to Go among the Six Nations. And That he wou'd Stand a Chance To loose his Scalp among them.

¹ Destroyed by fire.

1th: Janauary We came to the upper Castle of the Mohawks went To the House of An Indian known by the Name of Brant. Who Understanding We Were Going to the Six Nations told Some of our Company That if we Went Shou'd Certainly be killed Or taken; That the uper Nations were not True in the Engilish Intrist — We went forward and that night lodged at the German Flatts.

2^d: Went To One Stails a German but on our way there Met with Some of the Onnida Indians at one Andriss Pipers we . . .¹ We had in our Company One of the uper Nation Indians who fell very Sick. left him in the Care of Some of the above Indians, and hir'd two of those Onnidas to Go With Us in Order to help Carry Some of our bagage as far as Onnida Castle —

The 3^d: and 4th. incamped in the Woods The 5th: Ariv'd in Onnida. the 6th. had a meeting with all the Chiefs delivered the Hon^{ble}. Sir William Johnsons Messuage To them which they Recived kindly and Made a Suitable Answer.

7th: Set out for Tuskarorah Castle leaving Cap^t: John Butler according to Orders at Onnida Came in the Eveing to Tuskarorahs; had a Meeting imeadiatly with the Head Men; there deliver'd The Hon^{ble}. Sir William Johnsons Messuage To them.

8th: Went to an Indian town called kanossaragah Where We lodged. and as no Sachams Were there, one Ey told the Young Men where We were Going and our busness without calling any Meeting.

9th. We left kanossaragah and about half Way Onondaga Met with Mr. John Abeel two Sinakas and one Kiyogo Indian. Mr. Abeel askt us where we were Going We redily Told him Where. Upon which he askt is this all your Company. We answered it was. he Said have You any Goods or presents for the Indians, We told him had none. With that he lauged and Said Jone Cair is coming To Sinakas With Several Horses loaded With Goods and a party of Men with him. if You Go

¹ The matter omitted in copying was apparently illegible.

on you'l About Meet him there. he told us further that he had been inform'd by Some Indian or Indians that there Were five of the French Indians hired at Nigra to come and kill or take him Or any other Engilish they might Meet with, this Mr. Abeel Said was what he verily beliv'd Or was assur'd Was true —

he then began to tell how badly he had Suffer'd among the Indians, Upon which we desir'd him To lodge with Us that Night. for that We wanted To talk further with him. he consented and we all proceeded forward till we came To a proper place of encampm^t. we Soon built up a bark Hutt. and Mr. Abeel and party another —

We desir'd Mr. Barant Wemp one of our Company and who was well acquainted with the Sinakass and cou'd Speak thire language to Go and inquire of them what Newes was Stiring in their Country &c: he Said one of the Indians was a Great frind of his, and went To their Hutt where he Sot and had considerable talk with him. who was the Youngist Son of a Sacham known by the Name of the drunkard. in the Mean time Mr. Abeel was Siting with Us telling how luckily he Escaped being killed by a Sinaka Indian and kiyogo. That these two had been Sent from Nigra to kill him or any other Engilish they Should find among the Indians. and that he was informed these two Indians had been waiting his coming Seven days in Kiyogo Castle. that he imagined Severals the kiyogos know their define¹ Mr. Abeel Says he past this Nation but thinks was decovered by some One or other of them for the two Indians followed & Overtook him at the Sinaka falls where they incamped Near each other; in the Eveing by their behaveour he had Suspicion they were on a bad desine. he proceeded forward To Sinaka landing,² where he incamped & Sent Some Rum to the Castle for the Indians to drink which he says they did and Got drunk together with the two Indians he had been Suspisious of, whom he Says

¹ Define in the copy; "desine" was probably written.

² Geneva. The Seneca Castle was "one and one half miles northwest of Geneva," W. M. Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Occupation of New York*, p. 129.

had Got to the Castle unknown to him and at a late hour in the Night the two rogues hearing where he lay resolved to kill him, and left the Castle with that Intent, but being overheard by an Indian Woman She Sent a boy who came and Gave Mr. Abeel timely Notice. The two Indians attacked him with Guns Pistils &c. but Says Abeel he defended himself So well & by the assistance of an Indian Woman he Made Shift To Get Clear of them and escaped to the Castle, with a wound in his Side by a Shot of one of the Indians pistils. That his Negro was likewise wounded but made his Escape; also These two Indians after doing this Went boldly into the Castle and tarry'd there two days. in which time Mr. Abeel Says he kept Close in one of the block House Chambers. The Rogues Going away he advised with a young Indian for Safety who told him to Go privately to the Uper End of the Sinaka lake where he Wou'd Meet him. accordingly he went and that so private that Neither Man Woman or child knew where he was Gone the Indian Met him at the place appointed. And after a Stay of thirty od days they return'd to the Castle. the Indians was Surprised to See him and thought he had been Gone home. Mr. Abeel Said upon hearing the before Mentioned five Indians were coming to kill him Got Some the Sinakass To convoy him home. the Sachams desir'd him to tarry Eight or ten days longer which they Said he might do with Safety. however he wou'd not and So left them Saying he wou'd come again. Mr. Abeel told us the Sinakass were not Good. that he had mentioned that of a Smith coming to reside and Work among them Next Year with the proviseoun they wou'd take care of him. their answer was they cou'd not.

Mr. Wemp told us as Soon as he Sat down by his frind he Askt him whither he was Going. who made answer to the Sinakas your Country. the Indian Said you are far enough. dont Go there unless you Want to be burnt. And so you had better turn back otherways the French or their Indians will Get you. Wemp askt if we might not Safely Go to kiyogo Castle. the Indian Said there you'l find it wors, for they will betray you.

10th: in the Morning parted with Mr. Abeel he Going for Albany & we to Onondagah. at which place we arived in the The Afternoon. at coming into the Castle Saw the Indians assembled together. So had a convenient oppertunity to desire a Meeting which we Soon had of what few were at home the Greatist part being Gone to Cannada and on the Hunt. deliver'd the Hon^{ble}. Sir William Johnsons Messuage to them which they Seem'd pleas'd to hear and gave a proper answer. When that was Over told them what had passed between Mr. Abeel and the Sinakas with him, Saying we were not come out to Warr but onely with Good News from the Broth^r. That we thought it not Safe to proceed further and askt their Opinion. They Said we have heard you and all agree in your turning home. We lodged here this Night in the Bunts House, where lay a Trader named Albert Ryckman. We had much talk with him. he acquaint'd us had been in the fall of the Year to See the Ruins of Oswego, and Said the fashon of all the buildings of that important Place were yet the Same Excepting the wood work which was all burnt. and the Wall round Oswego House he imagined To be thrown down by hand. he told us that when Mr. Abeel came to him from the Sinakas Said he actual'y fled from thence for fear of his life but beliv'd Shou'd return again as he had left considerable Goods there. Mr. Ryckman Said the Reflections he dayly heard from the Indians Relateing To Oswego being So Eaisily taken &c: was more then a man cou'd well hear. Mr. Ryckman Conversis with them from time to time. And Says he thinks the Indians better inclin'd to the French then the Engilish. he has heard them Say they belive the French Means them no harm. And that the Engilish does — Wanting to Get all their lands and Ruin them. We acquainted him Was order'd To leve Lieu^t. Schuyler at Onondagah till further Orders. he askt if he had any thing with him to present the Indians, we answer'd No. Upon which he Said he will be of little Service here. Then he made a Comparision of Jane Cair's comeing to the Sinakas with his loads & Said if Schuyler tarryes here

without any thing it will Give Much Suspicion at these Criticall times, Mr. Ryckman Said he was Going on a hunting Match with the Indians. We propos'd Schuylers Going With him but he Modistly refused him.

On hearing all this and few Indians at home provisions very Scarse and deer, and Mr. Schuyler Not thinking his Situation wou'd be agreeable We resolved he shou'd Go back with us and To leve him with Mr. Butler in Onnida.

11th: tarryed this day and Night in Onondagah

12th: We Gave the Hon^{ble}. Sir William Johnsons Messuage Over to two Sinaka Indians who had been in Company with us. Named Silver Heels. and Johne. to Carry the Same To the kiyogo and Sinaka Nations and to tell the Sinakas the reasons we did not come to their Castle which we thought cou'd not do with prudance or safety as there wou'd be but two of us, and hearing they wou'd not protect the Engilish in their Country in case the Enemy came to take them, which we understood by Mr. Abeel wou'd be the Case.

We having a Messuage in perticular To a Chief of the kiyogo Nation known by the Name of the Engilish Man. upon hearing he was Gone To Nigra and not to return till the Spring, Sent Said Messuage to his Family by the aforesaid two Sinakas. To be carefully delivered him on his return.

We were inform'd by Indians that onely one Chief was at home of the kiyogo Nation known by the Name of the Negro. The rest being Gone to Nigra and on the Hunt.

This day we left onondagah incamped between that and Kanossaragah.

13th: Called at kanossaragah, Met with a letter from the Hon^{ble} Sir William Johnson Bar^t: relateing To a German Girl he heard was at onondagah who had been taken last Summer at the German Flatts. She had been in onondagah but Sent away to Sweagatia last fall.

We incamped this Night between Kanossaragah and Tuskarora.

14th: We came to Tuskarora and after a Short Stay Went To onnida. where we had a Meeting with the Chiefs. told them the Reasons of our Coming back. they Said we had done well by turning back and had they known there was such News wou'd have Sent an Express after us

We proposed Lieu^t: Schuyler tarrying among them which they redily agreed to

15th: Lodged this Night at Onnida. Saw and heard of Great quantitys of Rum brought to their Castle from the German Flatts. Cap^t. John Butler Complayned of the Great quantityes of liquor brought there. which Made the Indians Drunk and very Troublesom to him. in so much that one Night he was advised by one of the Chief Men Not To lodge in the Castle.

16th: We left onnida Lodged this Night in the Woods.

17th: Overtook Several Indians Going down To the German Flatts To buy Rum

18th. lodged this Night at the Flatts

18th lodged at kanawagah ¹

We are
Sir

To

With all Respect

The Hon^{ble}:

Your Hon^{rs}. Most Dutifull and

SIR

Humble Servants

WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^t.

THO^s: BUTLER

att

JELLES FONDA

Fort Johnson

¹ Caghnawaga.

FROM JAMES CUNNINGHAM

*Copy*¹*Boston 26th. Jan, 1757.*

DEAR SIR WILLIAM,

I am desired by Lord Loudoun to inform you that there is an article charged in Cap^t. Bradstreet's accounts, for money deliver'd to Cap^t. Buttler & paid by him to the Indians, which article, his Lordship thinks comes more immediately under your inspection, & therefore desires that you will charge it in your accounts, that being thought the most regular channel for it to go in, & desires that you will repay Cap^t. Bradstreet for the payment of which he says he has Buttler's receipt. By a ship lately arrived from England, we hear that there is a total change in the ministry. Offerrells Rgt. & twenty two Companies are arrived from Ireland at New York — Make my Compliments to Catherwood, & let him know that his brothers arrived here lately from England & is perfectly recovered. It is said that very vigorous measures will be pursued in America from home. I am afraid that his Lordship will be detained longer here than he imagined.

I am, Dear Sir, Your most obedient

& most humble servant.

Ja^s. Cunningham.

FROM WILLIAM JOHNSTON

*A. L. S.**Albany 27 [Jan^y. 1757]*D^R SIR

I had the favour of yours of the 26 instant by Mr. Claus to whom I have paid what remained due to you on Lord Loudoun's Warrant for £3000 Strg in obedience to your order. As the last supply I received from York consisted of Paper Money, for conveniency of carriage, I have been obliged to pay L^t. Clause your Balance in that sort of Money.

¹ In Library of Congress, Force Transcripts, Miscellaneous, v. 3.

Mr. Porter my clerk goes with this party on a Jaunt of pleasure, and partly to obtain your Receipts for the Money you will now receive as Mr. Clause's Receipts will not be strictly conformable to the method prescribed by the Paym^r. General's office at Home. As he is a modest [] Man and one that I have a great regard for [] Doct. Catherwood¹ will not Debauch him.

I refer you to L^t. Clause for the particulars of a Skirmish that happened the 21st inst. between a Scouting Party of Rangers under the Command of Rogers, and some French & Indians near Ticonderoga. I am

Sir

Your most Obed^t H St.

W^m JOHNSTON.

To SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^t.

FROM ARENT STEVENS AND PETER SPEELMAN

The preceding is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 86, by two which were destroyed by fire: a letter of January 31st from Arent Stevens, at Schenectady, to Johnson, about an Indian suspected of being a spy; and Peter Speelman's account, undated, of a force of French and Indians at the falls of the Ohio river, and of friendly disposition of Shawanese and Delawares on the Susquehannah.

INTELLIGENCE FROM CANADA

<Fort Johnson 14 Febr^y. 1757.

Two Onondagas who accompanied the Deputies of the Six Nations that went to Canada <last November, as far as> Swegachie arrived here in 20 Days <from said place, they came in> Company with seven Swegachie Indians <as far as Oneida> who were <sent by> the Priest,² and Officer there,

¹ William Catherwood, surgeon, 40th regiment.

² François Picquet, a Sulpitian, who founded the mission of La Présentation.

by order of the Governour,¹ <to> enquire of the six Nations, whether what their Deputies said, and desired in Canada, was the Sentiments of the whole Confederacy.

They say when the Deputies arrived in Canada, they found there was a Body of 200 French and 300 Indians of different Nations preparing to set out for the German Flatts and the Mohawk River with the first Snow, they asked the Governour, or General whether He was determined to put said Scheme in Execution, being answered in the affirmative: They spoke to the French Indians, and told them it would absolutely breed a Quarrel, and that immediately between them, and the six Nations, were they to join the French in it, they afterwards desired the Gov^r. to drop the Scheme, and not molest that part of the Country.

On which the Governour told them, he thought that their Brother* Warraghiyagey had put them Words in their Mouths, they assured them it was their own Desire & Sentiments, adding that as that was a Road of Peace which their Forefathers had allways used, when they came to speak with their Bretheren the English, they would not have it stopped, or covered with Blood.

<On which the Governour told them it should not be done, and that he would acquaint all his Children> the Indians with it, <and forbid them going that way.>

The Informant says, that the Chiefs who <went to> Montreal, were on their way home and near Swegachie when he left it, but thought they would stay and hunt some time.

He says there are about 100 Soldiers at Swegachie, and 300 at Cataraghui — The French Officer and Priest at Swegachie told them, that if the English should build another Fort at Oswego they would destroy it. He further added that he heard it commonly reported at Swegachy, that before the Snow was all gone, the French would take the Field with a great Number of Indians from the West, who use Bows and Arrows chiefly,

¹ Marquis de Vaudreuil.

* meaning Me

also Arundax, Squightarighronos¹ &c. and attack us in our Forts at the Lake, and Carrying Place (meaning Fort Edward) since we do not come to them. He says that the six Nation Deputies and Caghnawagies spoke very smartly to the French Governour, and told Him it appeared to them, as if He wanted nothing more, than to set them who were Friends and Relations by the Ears, and have them destroyed, as He was allways for having them the advanced Party. He says the Caghnawagies are endeavouring all they can to keep out of the Scrape, alledging they know not what the Quarrel is for.

Provisions at Cadaraghqui pretty plenty since they took Oswego, Amunition and Arms also, but he thinks in general provisions is pretty scarce in Canada, goods very plenty. They like the General very well. There are many Germans <and Dutch among the Troops, who are much kinder to the Indians, than the French. he says that some of the> Swegachie Indians joined <the French last year, but much> against their Inclination, and that <they and the Caghnawagies> are determined now not to join if they can help it. Lastly he says the French are determined (as he heard) to build several Forts between Montreal and Tiondaroga early in the Spring.

Gave him four Cags of Rum and Sundry other Trifles and dispatched him.

W^m. JOHNSON

INDORSED: Fort Johnson Feby. 14th. 1757

An Onondaga Indians

Intelligence

¹ Apparently, the Skaghquanoghronos, an Algonquin settlement at Trois Rivières, Can. See *Doc. Rel. to Co Hist. N. Y.*, 7:582.

FROM JACOB CHEEKSONKUN

A. L. S.

[Stockbridge, Feb^y 21]

[
] expected pay [accord]ing to the agree-
 ment made []ing. But however it has hapned we
 have not been [] dealt with there is a great deal of
 money yet due as may be seen by the Muster role which has put
 me to a great deal of Trouble as well as made my Soldiers find
 fault as if they Suspected me of dishonesty which name I never
 had before. But because I have not received it, therefore I could
 not pay the soldiers as they expected by agreement. There were
 also eight guns lost of the Indians property which they expect I
 answer but if I must pay that and the arrears that remain unpaid
 of the wages it will leave me worse then when I begun if I cant
 be help'd in this matter I shall go very heavily into the war if
 Called for but if set right shall go with all Chearfullness and
 delight. I begg Your Hon^{rs} favour that these matters my be
 set right and You will greatly oblige Your Most obedient

Humble

Serv^t JACOB CHEEKSONKUNTo the Hon^{ble}S^R WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^t.

INDORSED: Letter from Cap^{ln}. Jacob
 of Stockbridge
 Feb^{ry} 21st. 1757

A RETURN AND AN ACCOUNT

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 86-87, by Captain Mark Petry's return, dated February 26th, a list of 64 names; and Johnson's account with Andrew Montour, with receipts, May 3, 1758, of Henry Montour. These papers were destroyed by fire.

INDIAN INTELLIGENCE

*Copy*¹*Fort Johnson 4th March 1757 —*

Copy

The Information of an Onondaga Indian (called by the English Corn – Milk,) to Sir William Johnson.

Arent Stephens Interpreter.—

He said He had one Thing more to tell Sir William, which lay heavy on his mind, but begged he wou'd not discover him. He said that the Germans of Burnetfield sent a Letter to the French Governor last Fall by an Oneida Indian named Gawickie, by which they let him know the Hardships they labour under, and the ill Treatment they receive from the English, meaning the Troops, who past and repast that Way, as well as from those posted there; — That as they looked upon themselves to be in Danger as well as the Six Nations, they were determined to live and die by them, & therefore begged the protection of the French.—

On the French Governors receiving said Letter, he told the Six Nation Deputies, that if the Germans were sincere, he wou'd be as fond of them, as of the Six Nations, but that he cou'd not depend upon them, unless he had further Assurance of their Good Intentions by another Letter, whereby he also desired they wou'd let him know their Numbers, and the Number of their Slaves. The Swegachie Indians spoke to the Oneidas about it, who declared they knew Nothing of any such Thing. They then desired the Oneidas to go to Burnetsfield, & talk with the Germans on that Subject, and let them know, it wou'd be a good Opportunity to write now by them to the French Governor.

The Oneidas went accordingly to the German Flatts and first spoke to Joost Petrie about it who said he knew Nothing of it,

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.48, London, England. Inclosed in Johnson to the Earl of Loudoun, and in Loudoun to William Pitt, April 25, 1757.

but desired them to go to Harkeman, which they did; he also said he knew nothing of any such Thing. Then the Oneidas returned and told the Rest what they had done, upon which they all said it must be deferred untill Gawikie, the person who carried the Letter to Canada, returned, then they wou'd find out who had sent said Letter by him, and their further Intentions.

After which Sir William spoke to an Oneida about this Letter from the Germans; he said he knew nothing of it, but had heard that Ensign Wendall had wrote a Letter by Gawikie to Canada.—¹

A true Extract from the Records,
Examined by me

PETER WRAXALL, *Secr^y*.

INFORMATION GIVEN BY ALEXANDER MCCLUER

D. S.²

March 6, 1757

Information of Alexander McCluer of Pensilvania Government, who has been among the Senecas at Chenussio for these Six Months past, He was an Indian Trader & falling in Debt was afraid to return, so went among these Indians of Chenussio, alias Senecas

He says that he thinks most of the Indians living at Chenussio, will Join the French, as also those Senecas dispersed in little towns to the Southward, & Westward of it. that He had Seen Severall English Scalps in S^d. Castle w^{ch} He Jusges were taken, or brought from the Southern Governments.

Jean Cour with four French Men came to Chenussio last October, where He remained for 20 days, was also at y^e. Seneca Castle Called Ganughsadaagy,³ where he desired no English

¹ See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10:561,562.

² Original destroyed by fire.

³ Kanadesaga, or Ganundasaga, W. M. Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 158.

Should be Suffered to trade, or build, if any come there He would have them knocked in the Head, and be very angry with the Senecas. He Says that Jean Cour proposed building a Fort at Chenussio in the Spring, and he belived they Consented to it, as they are under Some apprehension of Danger from the Wawiaghtenhook¹ Indians. In the beginning of the Winter He Says that Seventy Delawares Called at that Castle in their way to Niagara, where they Said they were going to get Cloaths Am^t &c^a., from their Father. there was an Englishman accompanied them thither, who on their return told the Informant that the Delawares Spoke thus to the French, Father we are now at War wth y^e. English when we first began, we Struck them with billets of Wood, being verry poor. the French Com^{dt} told them He knew it to be true, and now gave them a Hatchet to Strike them with, & desired them to tell any of the English who might ask them the reason of their Strikeing them, it was because they, the English did not keep their arms clean, or in good Order. The French Officer Cloathed them all, and gave them besides 14 laced Coats, Arms & amunition. Severall of the arms were those taken at Oswego He gave Each Man 150 rounds of power & Ball.

There was a Number of the Delawares came to Chenussio as they were going last Spring to Niagara the Senecas Spoke to them, & desired they would Stay a few Days untill they called the Chief Man named Tagesheady, from Ganushsadasy the old Seneca Castle w^h. they consented to. He arrived in three Days, then the Senecas advised the Delawares to return, & not go to Niagara, they refused, and Said they would not be Stopt, and added further We have been once Women and ashamed to look down at our Petticoats, but as you have taken of our Petticoats, and encouraged Us to begin a Quarrel wth. the English, We are detirmined never to Submit again to that Ignominious State while there is one of us alive and it Seems to us that you

¹A Miami tribe on the Wabash, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:268, 583.

now want to throw all the Blame on us, & make peace which we will not hearken to. but will go to Our Father who will assist, & protect us. My Informant Says that Eight Days before he left Chenussio w^h is now ab^t thirty four Days ago, a Delaware named Shamokin Peter who was then Just come from Niagara told this Informant, that it was talked of there and agreed upon that all the Indians in the French Interest from the North Side of the Lakes were to Join the French, & come down to distroy the Mohawk Country, Early in the Spring, and the Indians liveing on y^e South Side of the Lakes, & those of Ohio, Delawares &c^a. were to go against Fort Cumberland, and the Southeren Governments.— about the same time.

further this Informant Saith not —
taken by me this 6th. Day of March 1757

W^m JOHNSON

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

9 March 1757

DEAR SIR WILLIAM.

Captain Wraxall tells me you say Ive <forgot> you, the Case is I expected to have the Pleasure of seeing you <till> Dr. Catherwood came hither, when I understood you had laid <aside> thoughts of coming to New York: The Embargo puts a stop to the Business of our Merchants & many others. I wish there was an Embargo on mine for a few Months that I might have leisure to write you as often as my Inclination leads me to, and to do my own as well as other folks Business. For this fortnight almost my Lord has been setting off daily for Philadelphia, he is here yet, and I believe will wait a day or two longer for the Pacquet which he impatiently expects. We have nothing but conjectures to amuse our selves with. Twill not be new to you that Transports are hiring here. I think my Lord will not have strength enough even tho 10,000 Land Forces come from Eng-

land, to attempt Quebec, as the New Englanders and we are to furnish but 5000. I therefore imagine Louisburgh is the Place thought of. 'Twould be an important Acquisition, and perhaps put the Tawny People under your department in better Humour. The French are strong every where, and we never found them deficient in Courage or Conduct. We must therefore earn what we get. I read your Proposals as to Indian Trade. Tis meant I conclude for time of Peace, when if the French will let us, I hope we shall be able to carry it on upon a proper and advantageous footing. That Fellow Abeel I hear is gone again some time ago among our Indians. I hear nothing of Indian Politicks and can form no Satisfactory opinion as to them. I am still of the opinion we ought not to let an ounce of any thing go up the Mohawks River above your House, except what passes through publick Hands, which ought to be only mere Necessaries and confin'd to our Friends, that is, those who are not, and by this means may be kept from acting, against us. These are few I fear, and perhaps confin'd to the five Nations, Even if all of them. <Some say there will be a ¹> to the Southward, if there be no other <way to make> those Governments raise Men, or to employ them to better <Purpose> this may probably be intended. Tis said two of the Batalions are <to be com>pleted from the rest, and that these with Abercrombys, Webbs and Ofarrels, are the Forces that are to embark. God grant them Success Pray Give us a Line or two by the Return of the Express.

I am Dr. Sir W^m.

your affectionate & obed^t humble Servant

GW BANYAR

SIR W^m. JOHNSON Bar^t.

¹ Matter omitted in the copy. Draft or impressment satisfies the sense.

THE PROPRIETARIES TO WILLIAM DENNY

*Contemporary Copy*¹*Feb. 12 and Mar. 10, 1757*

Extract of Proprietary's Letter to the Governor dated 12th: February 1757.

"I receiv'd a Duplicate of your Letter with a Copy of the Treaty you have held at Easton² with Teedyuscung the Delaware King, in which I observe some base and wicked People have dared to tell the Indians, that we have not only been guilty of Injustice towards these Indians, but of Forgery to bring that about, which is a charge I cou'd not have conceived any one wou'd have thought of.

"I had before the Receipt of the Treaty agreed with my Lord Halifax to send Deputies to Sir William Johnson in order to give Satisfaction to the Indians of the Six Nations about the last Purchase, by giving up to them their agreement to sell the Land West of the Allegheny Hills, and have now desired the Lords of Trade will recommend it very earnestly to him to examine into this affair in the Presence of the Six Nations and the Indians said to be injured, and let it be settled there, as I think it will be more satisfactory to the Publick both there and here to have this done by His Majesty's Commissioner than by our Governor, I have informed them that we shall send Deputy's, of which I shall write you further, of this I write fully to Mr. Peters."

Extract of Letter of the Two Proprietaries Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esquires dated the 10th: March 1757.

"Since the first of us wrote you the 12th: February of which we fully approve, we have closely considered the Treaty at Easton, and have on this Occasion taken the Measures of which you were informed in the above mentioned Letter, and now send

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² November 8-17, 1756. See *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 7:313-38.

to Mr. Peters the proper Orders and Instructions for him and other Persons in their Journey to Sir William Johnson and Treaty with the Six Nations and Delaware Indians there, and we desire you will inform Teedyuscung, that this heavy charge must be examined into by Sir William Johnson, as the most equal and just way of finding out the Truth of it, that it may be seen what their Cause of Complaint is before Satisfaction is made to them for it."

The above is a true Extract from Original Letters compared by
18th Aug^t 1757

RICHARD PETERS

FROM THE PROPRIETORS TO RICHARD PETERS

The preceding paper is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 87, by extracts from letters of February 12th and March 11, 12 from Proprietors Thomas and Richard Penn to Richard Peters, proposing an investigation before Sir William Johnson of charges made by the Delaware king affecting a land purchase (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:742-44; Q. 2:431-32). This paper was destroyed by fire.

FROM THE LORDS OF TRADE

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:221-22, is a letter, of March 10th, from the lords of trade to Johnson, approving his proceedings with Indians in the preceding year, inclosing the observations of the Pennsylvania proprietors on Johnson's letter of September 10th, in which he criticises their land purchase, and setting before him the proposal of the proprietors for removing Indian complaints.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

[*Onondaga March 11th 1757*]

I wrote You Yesterday ☿ [] have to acquaint you that the Sacham Called the old kittle and [] Came home yesterday from Cannada and says the Bunt With some others are Close at hand. The Flatt Nose is one of those

who arivd before I came here. The Old Kittle or Kanagawgogie tells me he has been some considerable time from Cannada that there the French told them should not Go against the Engilish first but wait for their coming to them, And at Sweagatia he heard a talk that a Considerable body of French & Indians were desind soon in the Spring to pass by Oswego up the Onondaga River in order to Make a desent on some of our posts, this he says some Told him there and others said knew nothing of it on the Lake side to the Eastward of Oswego he met The Sweagatia Indians who had been at Onnida & Cadaracque. its Given out here that the party I mentioned to you Gon from this a fighting, have takeing the old Warriours road to the Flatt heads. Scagwareasarah one of the Chiefs here told me. that when the Councill begins it will not be soon over for that they are not like the white people to detirmine Emeadiatly. But Every Sacham as Well as Warriours opinion must be heard.

I am

Hon^d. Sir yr. Dutifull Ser^t.

THO^s BUTLER

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

<Onondaga March 13th 1757

HON^p. SIR>

I wrote you the 11th inst. ☞ <Silver heels> Since Which Mr. Ryckman & m^r. Abeel are ariv'd here the latter of whom bro^t A belt wompom which he Says overtook him by Express from Tuskarora. The belt with the purport t^{ld} to the Chiefs Which m^r. Abeel Said Came from You by Way of a letter desireing the Six Nations Shou'd have Good lookout Now, and Watch the Motions of the Enemy So as to Give you timely Notice of their Desines. Said Belt Goes of this day for the Cinakas by an Indian Express The Bunt is not yet ariv'd but

hourly Expected. I was in hopes to have been at home in his House but was prevented by the Death of a young boy who died lately there, Which according To their Custom keeps them in Constant tears, My home is in the old kittles House and A Smoaky place it is. I cant say but the Indians are very kind to us. The beary¹ of this is the old Murderous Widdow Who says she is Going To y^r House &c. I shall from time to time write you all the News I can gether hereabouts and Submit To your knowledge To judge the Truth.

I am

Hon^d. Sir

Your Most Dutifull Ser^t:

THO^s. BUTLER

P: S

Mr. Ryckman tells me as he Came Riding in a Slay into Schenectady with two Indians with him belonging to this place Was stopt in a very Rough Manner by the Gaurd oppisate or Near John Babtists that the Indians Seem'd much Surprised. he luckily met a Negro fellow whom he desired to Show the Indians Such a house where they were To lodge. himself and Slay turn'd back in the street and after being Detained for Some time was Set at Liberty, m^r. Ryckman Says he thought the Indians wou'd not think to mention it when home but it Seems they have & Say the Engilish Seem to Seek qurrel. Meaning those from <over Sees.> I hope Such trifles Mayn^t at last breed Strife.

INDORSED: Ondaga March 13th 1757

Cap^t. Th^s. Butlers letter

¹ "Bearer" is evidently meant.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.

<Onondaga March 14th 1757>HON^D SIR

I have wrote you three letters <Since have> been here the last of which was yesterday by an indian <woman> who said was Going to your house, I have wrote you in said Letters all the News I cou'd Gether here abouts As I shall constantly do submitting to your Supearior judgm^t. of the truths. last night a Young Indian Named Adcondonga one of those lately from Canada, Came To See me and inquired very Narrowly after the Situation and Strength of our Fort at Lake George &c. and Told me that a French Indian from Kanossadagah in Canada Arived at Sweagatia before he left that place who said there was Gone An Army of a large body of French & Indians from Montrial To Attack Fort William Henery &c. that he likewise heard talk that another body wou'd fall upon our River this Spring.— The Indians are very kind To us here but must hear Many Reflections Cast upon the Engilish for their Slow Manner of Attacking the French, and the bad Success they have allrady had

I am

Hon^d SirYour Most Dutifull Serv^{tt}.THO^s. BUTLER

INDORSED: <Captⁿ. Tho^s.> Butlers
 <Letter Dated> Onondaga
 <March 14th> 1757

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:266–71, is a letter, of March 14th, from George Croghan to Johnson, followed by extracts from journals which exhibit Croghan's transactions with Indians from November 1748 till the summer of 1755.

FROM JOHAN CONRAD FRANCK

A. L. S.

Bornetsfielt den 16 Merz [1757]

CAPTAN CLAUS. Er wolle doch So [Gutig Sein?] und mir diese lieb erzeigen [und?] diesen brief an De Cornell vor zu lessen weil ich Die Menschen uf Den fall hab Geprest mit perth mit nach Ondago vor provisge vor Generall en Captan von De Cranadiren mit ihren Guth zubringen weilen diese Menschen noch Keine bezallung haben bekommen. nun aber Komen Sie mir alle Tag in mein Haus gelofen und plagen mich vor das Geld und wollen mich Arestiren lasen, oder Sol ihnen ihr Geld beseiden. So ist mein freundlich bitten an De General Johnson das er doch das beste mögen dabey thun damit das Geld möge bezahlt werden anders werde ich meer und mehr von [] geplaget. Ihre Exselents [] wolle doch So Gutig Sein wan es doch m[ög?]lich wäre das Geld vor die Ochse vor Andreas Klebsattel en Dietrich Stell und William Cunigkum und an mich Conrad franck Zu über-Schicken mit diesen Sohn von Andreas Klebsattel. Sie wolle doch das beste bey General Lorth Laudan thun das de Rechnung Doch mochte bezahlt werden. So Seyn Sie und Ihre famillige von mir wie auh von meiner frau tausent mal Gegrüset und verbleibe Sein freund und Diener

JOHAN CONRAD FRANCK

Translation

Burnetsfield, March 16 [1757]

CAPTAIN CLAUS:

You will [be so good] as to show me this kindness [and] read this letter to the Colonel. As I impressed the men at the Falls with their horses to carry provisions and baggage to Onondaga for the General and the captain of grenadiers, and as these men have as yet received no pay, now they come running to me in my house every day and dun me for the money, and want to

have me arrested, unless I obtain their money for them. So my earnest request to General Johnson ¹ is to do his best in the matter in order that the money may be paid. Otherwise I shall be bothered more and more by []

Will your Excellency [] be so good, if it is possible, as to send the money for the oxen for Andreas Klebsattel and Dietrich Stell and William Cunigkum to me; Conrad Franck, by this son of Andreas Klebsattel? Will you do your best with General Lord Loudoun to see that the account is paid?

My wife and I send our very best greetings to you and your family, and I remain

Your friend and servant

JOHAN CONRAD FRANCK

FROM ROBERT LEAKE

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 87, is a muster roll of Sefferines Deygert's company, sent to Fort William Henry; also a letter from Robert Leake, Albany, about cattle bought at Livingston Manor; both of the 20th. Destroyed by fire.

INDIAN INTELLIGENCE

A. L. S.²

[Oneida, March 21st 1757]

[] lickwise expekts the same []³
can of nuse so that let how will [] a pese is made
the oneidas deni that [] agreement

Father we plant a Tree that reches to the Sky and []
met under and as fast as they wilt we shall stick []

Children your medesins are chepe you gave me yesterday one
you gave [] Bad with my Body and mind thear

¹ Johnson journeyed in June 1756, to Onondaga. He was attended by Captain Patton and a company of grenadiers. See Expenses of Onondaga Meeting, June 10, 1756.

² An account of a conference between Oneidas and the Governor of Canada. ³ Several lines missing.

was no a casen for it as thear [] in me that is Bad
it is you that wants medesins and not I. gave a Belt

Children you sad you wipet the Plase clean whear we are
met of Evryth[ing] thear is no a casen for it as
thear is nothing Bad whear I [am] gave a Belt

Children I thenck you for plantin this tree as that is macking
the [] I thenck you lickwise for the Reselution
you have tacken but [] that you have your Brothers
in your hand and that thear is [] planted at Onna-
daga and the rutes of which reches to the S[ky] []
Allies and they all have hold of thes Rutes and []
should be cut that you are one

Father it is tru that we have Brothers acks but it is very small
& we Put it behind our Back

Children my hol Body is glat even to my fingers ends to hear
the Reselusion you have tacken the Ottawaes and Conawages
thenckes [you] Lickwise the Rundox says Brothers I thenck
you Lickwise as I [] fitters and shall go Early in
the Spring with my fitters to wor and [] fitters ment to
stick my acks in any Indans head that shall asist []
Engles he sung the wor song

Children the resen I did not tack the Fort at Lack george last
fall [] that I Expeckted theay would atack me but as
they did not I [] to them as Soon as the Lack is
oppen your Brothers must Die then [] have sean the
Fort and find it is much easer to tack then oswego as it is sanday
ground it is easy to under mind it we tuck oswego with for¹
cannon as the rest ware not com up when the Plase surend[ered]
I flun it Down with my hands

¹ Montcalm's first division reached Oswego on the morning of the 10th of August with four cannon; but at daybreak on the 12th the second division arrived "with the bateaux of artillery." When, on the 14th, the white flag was hoisted on Fort Oswego, "the besiegers had nine guns in a position to bear."—*Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10 (*Paris Documents*): 441–43, 459–60, 478.

the Conawageys tells our Indans that they Cnow not whear
[] Desins to merch but thenck it will be for the
great flats and [this?] Year.

Children I dont doe as the Engles your Brothers does to tack
y[our] Lands from you. I tact oswego and the Cren¹ plase²
and give them Back we are a fiten for your Lands for my part
I give them Back as it would be a Sin in me to caupe them from
you

on our return hom at Codarock we met letters from the
cherica[] Who has Been as fer as the Wannots country they
sade they c[ame] to se how thear Father was at wor with and
as they saw a frin[ch] offiser thear returent but are to returen
early in the Spring [] Forty fitters to assist the Frinch

The Ottawaes and severl other nations are at oswegat [y?]
[]³

[There was a Letter last fall⁴] sent to Canaday to the
[French Governor, from the great Flatts; the Indians say that
Capt. Joost Petrie wrote it, to desire the French] not to due
them any hurt as [they were no more white people but] Oneidas
and that their Blood was mixed with [the Indian. The] Indan
that cared this Letter was Cawatia.

[The Fre]nch answert that they did not desier to hurt them
[but that] they must stand aside as he was a coming that way
early [in the] spring and that he would give them Lands to live
on [He] tould our Indans that the Jermens in the old contery
war [all in the] frinch Intrest.⁵

[The] Indans that came hom last forom oswagaty says that

¹ Carrying.

² Fort Bull, on Wood creek, at the Oneida Carrying Place, was taken and destroyed on March 27, 1756, by a force of French and Indians under Lieutenant de Léry.

³ Several lines missing.

⁴ Parts of this and the following paragraph, destroyed by the fire, are supplied from an extract in the Public Record Office, London, England.

⁵ See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10:561, 562.

Capt [P]atten¹ that went with you to Onnadaga was Hanged
in [Ca]naday for attempting to mack his a Scape

[Th]is is all that I can find out at Present, but thear []
the Lack Side I am tould will tell ther minds []
that have com home have got large presents from [the Fr]ench
they have serval last² cots which they bost []
by telling those that stayed at hom when dos your []
Sir William give you such coats and shirts

Capt Fonda & Lu^t Schyler arived at Onnadaga 20 Instant
I am Sir your Most Duty full hombell

Servent JOHN BUTLER

P. S.

The Indan that brings this is very firm in our intrest and beleve
you may find something mor out of him then I have rote

INDORSED: Oneida March 21 1757
Indian Intelligence
Captⁿ. Jⁿ Butler

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.³

Onondaga March 27th: 1757

HON^d SIR

I Rec^d yours p Cap^t. Fonda & Schuyler and the 25th: Instant
recived your other favour by an Indian Dated the 13th March
wherein you write me have heard the Enemy are Moving towards
our parts. You^l find by My letters if come Safe to hand have
Given you the Same account, in perticular that I heard they
desir'd to attack the Fort at the Lake and were on the march
and I have been told very lately that a very Great army of

¹ Captain David Patton was alive in 1758, a half pay officer on the British army list of that year.

² Laced.

³ Original destroyed by fire.

French and Indians the latter Commanded by Young Mons^r Langville,¹ or in Indian Atockqueesara have Given out this Winter in Cannada that they wou'd Soon Go pay their Compliments to the Engilish at Lake George & by what I can lern they are Chiefly Cannadeions and Indians. So that their Desire may be Some where Else. The Indians who came lately home from Cannada tells me when they Spoke with the Gov^r. there forbid him or his Indians doing any Mischief on the Mohawk River from the German Flatts to Schenectady.

I hear about twenty Deleware Indians have been lately at the Sinakass, but what their busness was cant lern as yet, having not Seen a Sinaka Since have been here, but understand they will be soon at the Meeting. When they arive those of the lower Castles will be Sent for, Here is but few young men at home. being Mostly on the Bever Hunt, The Chiefs assure me that no considerable body of the Enemy Can come by the way of Sweagatia but what they must know it as many of this Castle are hunting all along the Lake Side down to that and promise as Soon as possible to Give us Notice if they decovour any Moving of the Enemy. The Onnidas have promis'd the Same and I think Some trusty fellows of that Nation are Gone that way Hunting.

I cant See we can be of any Great Service here after the Meeting. the bearer is one of this Nation who is Going to your House and Seems to be a man Noticed here as he is at all their Councells and I refer you to him to Give you the perticulars of the Treaty between our Indians and the French last fall in Cannada. I Guess our Indians are for acting as Nuters in the present Troubles and belive it will not be Good To press them too hard for Warr.

Some Sinakas are this Moment ariv'd here who are Going Down to Trade, belive they will Go as farr as your House. they

¹ The March expedition against Fort William Henry was led by M. de Rigaud de Vaudreuil, brother of the governor, and Paul Joseph le Moyne, Chevalier de Longueuil. The detachment operated against the fort from the 18th to the 22d and withdrew on the 23d, having destroyed the outbuildings and some boats.—*Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10:548-49.

Say that the head men of their Nation will be here in a few days. One of these Sinakas is a likely young fellow & Seems free To talk. belive he can iform you several things

I am Hon^d. Sir

Y^r. Very Dutifull Ser^t:

THO^s: BUTLER

P. S

I have opened this to insert the following — Viz: one of the above Sinakas, tells me that the Great man of his Nation whom you wrote to me of to make the Speech to the Warriors, has taken up the french hatchet. The Bunt tells me all the Nations will be here & that it will be a very Great Meeting. Everything will be there opened that has been Said Either by us or the french the hatchets on both sides will be produced, if we Go to threten or press them too hard belive they wont take it well, its impossible to find out how this meeting will Detirmine as yet — the Bunt I look on To be the princeable man of this Castle with whom I think Stand prety Well. I think he is a man that deserves a Great deal of notice To be taken of. he has advised me To Send for Some Rum To Give the Sinakas, Kiyogos &c. a dram at meeting. I am Going To Send for it this day. he desires me To acquaint you wou'd have Some the Mohawks be here at the Meeting but they must come as Soon as possible the bearer of this has Strings of Wompom with him to invite the onnidas &c. To this Councell, belive it wou'd be taken very well if you would Send for Some of the Chiefs of Each Nation To come down to you Soon after the Meeting.

T. B.

Cap^t. Fonda, Lieu^t. Schuyler & Mr. Ryckman desires their Duty To you Cap^t. Montoor is this day Going Down To Onnida To See his Wife but promises to be here in foure or five days

28th: March 1757

FROM WILLIAM BAKER

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 87, by William Baker's account, dated London, July 31st, of the investment of Johnson's parliamentary grant (printed in Stone's *Johnson*, 1:554-55).

FROM DAVID VAN DER HEYDEN

A. L. S.

Herkimers ye 1 <April 1757>

SIR

You have doubtless heard that <Gerrit> Van Slyck is returnd from Onnyde last night & brought account from them that there is an Indian Army a comeing from Oswegaje to attack this place, which may possibly be true, I would recommend to you to go about the finishing the Fort round your Church¹ as fast as possible that you may have a place to shelter yourselves & defend you against the Enemy when they come, the malitia will doubtless lend you hand in doing it I hope the Almighty will protect you all & am

Your most Humble. Sert.

DAVID VAN DER HEYDEN

FROM WILLIAM EYRE

A. L. S.

Albany 3^d April 1757

DR. SR. WILLIAM

Last night I got to this Place with the Garrison of Fort W^m. Henry, all well & in spirits, tho I made forced Marches in order to get the Men into good Quarters. The morning I left Fort W^m. Henry there was two dead Men found in the Pile of Chord wood, an Indian that had been scalped, & cover^d over with snow; besides which some more were discover^d in a hole made in the Ice close to where the Streem runs into the Lake. Its imagined

¹ Johnson was at German Flats.

a good many will be found of the Enemy when the Snow disappears & the Ice is melted. I am very certain the french Army must have suffer'd most terribly on their return, the weather since that time having been so severe, & the Lake in so bad a Condition for marching upon. The Enemy left 1000 or 1200 Hand sleys behind them in their Encamp^t., several of their Pieces of Canvas for covering the Soldiers are found, & its not doubted but a great deal of their Equipage is left behind which Will not be found until the Snow melts.

I wish I could send you the things You Mentioned. My Quick departure from the Fort prevented me from having the opportunity. Our Rangers there could Supply you with some of those Trifles.

If you have any inclination for having any Particulars concerning the transactions at the Lake, I will be Able to procure you them now, as I shall have more leisure

I am

Dr. Sr. W^m., very Sincerely

y^r. wellwisher

& most obed^t Ser^t

WILL: EYRE

To S^R. W^M. JOHNSON

FROM ROBERT LIVINGSTON JUN.¹

A. L. S.

<Herkemans y^e 4 April 1757.

HON SIR>

The Copy of Mr. Butler's <Letter you was pleased> to send me, I read with much <Concern, & now think the> advises to be Serious; I hope you ha<ve Sent for all the> rigulars & for the militia, not on<ly of this> County, but those also of the neighbour<ing Countyes> that we may be able with Gods Blessing to make a Stand against so numerous a body of Enemy

¹ Captain Robert Livingston, Jun, of Livingston Manor.

as is Expected. this part of the Country we now are in, is in my opinion <too> week to make any Successfull defence, by reason of the River which divides our troops, & no Fortifications capable of makeing any long defence on either side <the> house I am Quarterd in has no manner of Defence <ca>pable of keeping 300 Indians off, I have it in order from the Major to march to the assistance of the Fort <in> case it be attacked, which will in that case be Impos<si>ble for me to do. I should be glad to have it in order <to> march Immeadiately to the Fort with all my men. I think it also advisable that a fresh Express should be Sent down to Schinectady & Albany to hurry up all the men they have, It's true the Forts on the Carrying place are posts of Great Importance, And ought to be reinforced, but I look upon a second attempt on that place to be remote and that the Greatest danger at psent lays here, I should have wated on your Hon^r. this day but my knee was too painfull to walk so far I have Copy^d the Letter & shall Immeadiately go with it to Cap^t McNiel. I Remain with respect

Hon^d Sir Your most ob^t. Humble Ser^t.

ROB^t. LIVINGSTON JUN

ADDRESSED: For

Sir William Johnson Barr^t.
att Great Flatts

INDORSED: Robert Livingstons Letter

April 4th 1757
at y^e. German Flatts

FROM ALBERT RYKEMAN ET AL.

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 88, by information given by Albert Rykeman of a proposed attack on German Flatts, dated April 5th; a letter to Johnson from Captain John MacNeill, 42d regiment, in behalf of Major Cook, who reports for orders, dated the 6th; a letter from William Cleland, commending a friend to Johnson, date uncertain; and a letter from Ferrall Wade, at Fort Johnson, to Johnson, at German Flatts, on supplies furnished, dated the 6th. These papers were destroyed by fire.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.¹*Oneida Aprill 7th. 1757*HON^D SIR

I recived your favour the 5th Instant dated at the German flatts 3^d.² wherein you desire to know when the meeting will be held & what my thoughts are about it. I have in Some of my former letters Given you a little of my Opinion relateing thereto, and Shall now tell you My full Sentements the Meeting Seems to be kept back as long as possible by Some of the Indians the reasons best known to themselves Several the head fighters of the Onondaga Nation are not come home yet from Cannada &c. I imagin they wont act in the Meeting without them. Such as Tuhogwanda & Canodock. as I was Seting one Eveing with the Bunt, he told me pittied Me to think what I must hear at the Meting, for that it would Give me a Great deal of uneaisiness, for there Every News Would be opened, I desir^d him to Explain himself. he Said I cant tell you More but at the Meeting you'l know all, he Signified the Sinakas and Kiyogos would be the Heads of the Councell that Some of Several Nations besides those of the Six Wou'd be at Said meeting The three Greatist fighters of the Sinaka Nation wrote you have taken up the hatchet against us So that we cant look for any Good of that Nation. We have heard in this Castle That Indians from Cannada will be at S^d. Meeting, The Onondagas by their talk Seem To like the french better then us. So, one may redily Guess the opinion of the others liveing beyond them. The Onnidas Seem careless about Going to the Meeting as yet and whenever I speak to them they Say its time enough. I belive its well known to them when they ought to Go. I understand the Wolf tribe of this Castle Seems to act Contararey to the Others they often reflect on Each

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Not found.

other. Goweaha¹ is Still among the French who is the head fighter of his Tribe here belive the Others will do nothing without him, Cap^t. Montoor tells me he thinks Something very Extraordinary is in agitation among the Indians in Genaral. That he was advised by his Great frind Adsondongwa at Onondaga To Go away as Soon as he Cou'd and Shift for himself among the Indians, he and I was both told by the Speaker of Onondaga. That he expected the french Indians there as Soon as the ice was out the Lake, Several Sinakass are Gone with Jan Cair To Nigra To be fited out with presents. among whom is The Great man you wrote to me of Shou'd make the Speach, I hear when this fellow Tok the hatchett he danced The Warr Dance & Said he wou'd Go kill the Engilish at Penselvana. but was desir'd by Cair To use The hatchett at Lake George. An Engilish man Named James Clark Came To Onondaga while I was there. who Said he with nine Others deserted from the Carrying place last year and Got down to Onohoquaga where he and one other Stay'd the Other Eight made for Philidelphia but were intersepted & all killed and Scalped by the Indians, he tells me lived with Cap^t. Montoors Aunt² who with all her family are Great Enemys To the Engilish. he Says he Saw a Great pece of barbarity Committed on a poor German Girl which at last lost her life and tells of many barbaritys Committed on the Engilish prisioners he found Means to Get away from town to town till he came there where he has put himself in the bunts House he Says he was Some time in Kiyogo where he Got acquainted with Doquanie who he thinks is intirely against the Engilish as he has often heard him talking To the Indians bad and that he Saw a letter Doquanie was about To Send to Nigra, and told him all the Indians wou'd Soon be a fighting against the Engilish and advised him as he was one to Go away from Kiyogo, I have wrote you thought Some of the Enemy desin^d for the River Wou'd come through the Nations.

¹ Or Gawihe.

² Queen Esther.

Lieu^t: Schuyler tells me as he was out Shooting at Onondaga Lake with a young indian who told him that very Soon a vast number of the Enemy wou'd Walk that way. Saying more people wou'd be there then Ever was known to be at once. That there was another road where wou'd likewise Go another Great body of the Enemy. this I take to be by Water, The inclosed¹ is all I cou'd Get relateing To the Meeting in Cannada. which I look on as nothing to the purpose, I Saw Eight belts Wompom they had recived from the French &c.—

The Onondagas were kind enough to us while there for our Money. but I Cant Say their looks were so pleasant or that they Seem'd free To talk as usual. Mr. Ryckman a Trader there told me he began To be very uneasy and Wisht himself and Goods away, but Said he put Great faith in the Bunts family where he lodged, that they wou'd advise him to Go when they thought it danger. as they had promis'd him to do. he arived here² there the other day and told me he had advised with the Bunt &c. who told him he might now Go, and Gave him two young Indians To Escort him on the way. with a Charge if they decovr'd any Signs of the Enemy on the road to quitt the Same & take another Cours. this must appear very od in Every ones opinion. he has left behind what Goods he had unsold. I know no man the Onondagas have a better opinion of then himself.

The French in their Political way now tell the Indjans That the Engilish are vastly Supeariour to them for Numbers that they are in people to be compared to the leves on Trees Saying what will become of you when we are all destroy^d. this I think has a Great Effect on Indjans I have heard many Reflections Cast on the Engilish Saying they were not The Aintant people they Made the Covenant with &c:

I have often Said and do Yet That if any Troubles Shou'd arise between the Six Nations & us it will in Great Manner Or intirely be owing to bad ignorant people of a difrant Extraction

¹ Butler to Johnson, April 7, 1757, *q. v.*

² "From," which should follow "here," does not appear in the copy.

from the Engilish that makes themselves too busey in telling idle Stories. I fear we have too many of those who Speak the Indian Tongue More or less and dont Consider the Consequence of Saying we are Dutch & they are Engilish that they had a fight Together last winter in Schenectady. the Dutch there beat the Engilish. The quarrell was because they wou'd not allow the Engilish To be Masters & take from them all they had. that the Engilish wanted to drive them about like dogs, this Story I imagin proceeded from a small dispute between the battoe Men and Soldars last fall, and the Engilish are very Severe on the people at albany taking from them what they pleas breaking open their doors when they will, had forced Cap^t. Herkemer out his House. That Such has been Said appears To me to be too true for that the Indians cou'd not invent the like Stories.

I think it will be very proper here To acquaint you what passed between Lieu^t. Schuyler and a young Onondaga Indian as they were out Shooting Together The Indian knowing him to be of Dutch Extrackt began to Speak words reflecting on the Engilish and told Schuyler it wou'd be Good that the Albany people or Dutch with the Indjans Shou'd joyn & drive the Engilish out the Country. Schuyler Says he was Surpris'd To hear the fellow talk in that manner & turning To him Said we are all one people and under one King.— When I came here met with Some people Said To be Sent by Major Vanderhyden. To Go To Oswego To See if any thing of the Enemy was Stiring thereabouts. The Indians here before I came Said it was not worth their while. To go forward for that the Enemy cou'd not be there yet. I agreed with the Indians thought it best for them To Go back, but in a little time knew Such a Scout wou'd be right. The Indians in Onondaga Complain'd of the Great quantitys of Liquor bro^t to the Castles dayly by The Indians Cap^t. Montoor does not Seem much inclind To Go up the Meeting Says it wou'd be best in his Opinion that the heads Shou'd come down To you with the Result of Said Councell.

I thought it wou'd be right to acquaint the Command^t. at Fort

Herker of the accounts I had Received of the Enemys desine. accordingly wrote him from this, at the same time writeing To you. I suppose he has Shood you My letter —

My Brothers letters was wrote when I came here. for Mr. Campbell and the Germans, he was writeing To you, but I told him I thought he Need not as I Should Giveing you all the News had lernt here and above — which prevented his writeing you The Scouts I wrote you of went To the lake but Stopt by the badness of the weather, and the day before yesterday Set of two others from they who were detirmn'd To Go out and that for a Considerable way on the Sweagatie roads, three Others the Sachams asure us will Go Very Near Sweggatia.

I am Hon'd Sir

Your Most Dutifull & most obed Servt.

THO^s: BUTLER

To The Hon^{ble}.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Barr^t.

I thought it not worth while to Send this by an Express as Several Indians are Going down from this Tomorrow, according To the Several accounts have Recived from the Indians both here & at Onondaga think if the Flatts is not attacked in a few Days, that then the Enemy will partly come by water and Oswego their Rendevous place; if The accounts I have Sent you from time To time Should prove false, The Indians must be lookt on as a Set of lying fellows, but all their talk agreeing So well Together no room is left To doubt The Truth of a very Numours army of Indians from all parts with French, are pre-pareing To destroy The flatts and So on, its my thoughts the French Regulars will act another way. We are trying To Get as many men as we Can To come and joyn you. I must let you know that not an Indian That comes home here but brings with him More or less rum which makes The Castle Drunk and Gives us Much Trouble.

Jimmy The Onnida, who Gave us Som intelegence The other day which I wrote you of. he is now Gone down To the flatts in Company with the Sacham Called, Condoroonda, they will

undoubtedly wait on you. This Jemmy told My Brother a little before he went away That is was Certain & That we might depend the Enemy were prepareing To come upon our Countrey by The way of Oswego. & That it would be as Soon as The ice was out the onnida Lake. he Seem'd To tell it with Concern & Said I tell you no lye. I have Given you a long account, with My opinion and for which you'l pleas pardon Me, as I must Submit To your Superior knowledge allways, I am Glad To find by yours The Countrey are resolved To Defend themselves To the utmost against the Common Enemy and That you are throwing up a breast Work. I dont doubt where people are So Spirited To defend their all, and the Care you are taking With Gods Assistance will Defeat the wicked attemts of Our barbarious Enemys, & let what will happen hope To Share our fates with you.

I am

Sir

with all Respect Your Honours

Most Dutifull & most obed^t. Serv^t.

THO^s: BUTLER

8th. April

JOHN ABEEL'S DEPOSITION

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 88, by a deposition of John Abeel, of April 27th, concerning conversation of Indians relative to a French attack by way of Oswego. It was destroyed by fire.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.¹

[April 7, 1757]

18th. March the Chiefs met & Gave me the following acc^{ts}. of what they had Transacted at Cannada last fall &c.

at a Meeting with the Sweagatia Indians at said place The Six Nations Told them they wondred they took So much on themselves by Sending So often To the Six Nations To come To

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

them Remember Says they it was the other day when you left yr. Native Country To come To this. Wou'd¹ have you forget that we are Still the Head and if you have any business To treat of you must come To Us

they went to Montreal where they waited many Days before the . . .² came up. at last they Spoke without them. The French desir'd these To Spk first and To tell the Friendship which had been long Subsisting between them that if they forgot any part they wou'd put them in mind as they had it all in writg. they Ind^s. Said we cant write but know all that has past between us having Good Memories

after the Warrs & troubles we togethr. met you at this place where Every trouble was burred & a fire kindled here. Where was To Meet and Treat peaceably; you are daily now Working Distbances and Seem To forget the old agreem^t. &c: The Tree Semes To be falling. let it be now put up the Roots spread and the leves flowrish as before. you formerly S^d. take this booll and this meat with this Spoon let us Eat allways frindly Together out the one Dish but you now forget and have Seperated the Indians very much So as they cant well come Togethr To Eat out this Dish which is very hard as we have childⁿ. here & there Scatred throug ye. Countrey by your Means.

The English your Brothers & you are the common disturbers of this Countrey. I Say you white people togethr. We term the Eng^h. yr. Broth^s. as you must have some We Indians you Call Childⁿ. you both want To put us Indians a quarriling but we the Six Nations know better if we begin We See Nothg. but an intire Ruin of us as we wou'd¹ leve of till all was Gone, So we are Resolved To keep frinds on both sides as long as posible & not Meddle with the hatachett but indeavour allways To pacifie the white people Our arms shall be between you indeavouring To keep you a Sunder.

¹ "Not" should be supplied, though wanting in the copy.

² An omission in the copy.

This is the purport of the Ondagoes, kiyogos & Sinakas Speech To the Gov^r. of Cannada. the onnid and The Tuskaroras Spoke by themselves¹.

The Gov^r. thanked the Six Nat^s. that they Still Remembered how firm the peace was Concluded between them, and was Glad To hear they were Resolved not To Meddle in the present troubles Saying We Cant tell how Soon these troubles between the Eng. and us may be made up. but belive it must be long, We have desired the Kanawagas & Shaweanadies not To Meddle Much in the Warr but Mind their hunting

Some of the Atowawas and others the forign Nations were present at the Meeting of the Six Nations.

The Gov^r. of Cannada Said we have allways been obliged To Go against the English they being To Slow in their Motions But we desire now To Wait their comeing To attack Tiyonda & Crown point at which places we will be redy To Recive them

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist.*, N. Y., 7:244–54, is printed a journal of Johnson's proceedings with Shawanese, Nantikokes and Mohickanders, as well as Six Nation Indians, April 14–23.

INDIAN INTELLIGENCE

*Contemporary Copy*²

Fort Johnson 23^d. April 1757. A: M:

The Information of a Cayouga Sachem, who, was sent by His Nation to Sir William Johnson upon Business.—

As the only Sachem of Ours who was in Canada has given me from the his own Mouth, what Pass'd between the 6. Nation

¹ See Indian Intelligence, March 21. Also compare *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist.* N. Y., 10:499–518, and 555–63.

² In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.48, London, England. Inclosed in Johnson to the Earl of Loudoun, and in Loudoun to William Pitt, April 25, 1757.

deputies, and the Governor of Montreal, I shall give You the Heads of it¹—All the Particulars you will know when the Result of the approaching Meeting at Onondaga is over and brought down to You.

The said Governor told the Six Nations that as soon as the Season of the Year would Permitt, the French were determin'd to come to Oswego, go from thence to the Oneida carrying Place, and so down Stream to fight the English, and gave the Six Nations notice to stand out of the Way, and not offer to give them any Obstructions, he also told our People to warn the Germans at the great Flatts to stand on one side and keep Clear of their Army, and to tell the Mohawks the same, and that he had often Warn'd them on this Head, and he would do it once More, and if they would not Listen to him they must take the Consequence;

Upon which he was answerd by an Onondaga Sachem to this Purpose

That when he destroyed Oswego, he told the Five Nations that now he had Cleard their Country of the English, they might hunt & Live in Peace without hinderance or Fear, and desired them to live in Peace and Friendship with all Foreign Nations, and agree to hunt in each others Country. If therefore he should bring an Army to Oswego, and Attempt the Scheme he mention'd, they should believe what they had often suspected, that the French intended to destroy the 6 Nations, and that they should Look upon his Attempt as a declaration of War against the 6 Nations. They desired the French Governor to Committ no Hostilities by way of Oswego, and that if he wanted to Attack the English, he might do it by way of Lake George.

Upon this the Governor of Montreal said, that he was not Master to direct what should be done, but he would send their words to the great man at Quebeck, who he did not doubt would favourably Listen to what they had said, and that he believed they might make themselves easy on what he had said. Accord-

¹ Compare *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10:499–518 and 555–63.

ingly a large Belt of Black Wampum which they had given hereupon was sent to Quebeck.

The Cayouga Sachem then added, Therefore Brother, as we have not yet received an answer upon this Belt, I do not believe there is any Truth in the report you heard of a French Army being at Oswego Falls.

Sir William observed to this Sachem, that if the French had Paid any regard to their Belt mention'd in his Information, they might long ago had an Answer to it, and that the French Perhaps Intended to give them an answer when their Army came to Oswego.

To this the Indian made no answer.

A True Extract from the Records

PETER WRAXALL Secr^y.

INDORSED: Copy

Indian Intelligence from

Sir William Johnson

Fort Johnson Apr^r. 23^d. 1757.

in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of April
25th. 1757

3.

INDIAN INTELLIGENCE

Fort Johnson 28th. April 1757.—

Copy

*Contemporary Copy*¹

Canajageya (Alias the Old Kittle) a Sachem of Onondaga, who arrived here this day, gave Sir William Johnson, the following Information.—

Arent Stephens Interpreter.—

“ That he left Onondaga 4. days ago, that two days before, two Indians arrived there, Originally Onondagas, but who have lived many years at Niagara, and were with the French at the

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.48, London, England. Inclosed in Johnson to the Earl of Loudoun, and sent by Loudoun to William Pitt.

taking of Oswego, and went with the Army back to Canada, where they have remained ever since.— These Indians on their arrival at Onondaga were called upon by the Sachems, of whom this Informant was one, to know if they had any News to tell: who said that they left Canada a few days ago in Company with an Onondaga Indian named Gawickie, and some Indians belonging to Swegachie who are sent by the French Governor, to the Germans at the German Flatts, to enquire of the said Germans, whether they were determined to be as one Flesh, and one Body with the 5, Nations or not, that he might know in what light to Consider them.—

“ These two Indians further told us, that Just before they left Canada, the Cagnawagas told them that the Governor of Canada had Acquainted them that he could not Certainly say, how soon in the Spring, it would be before he marched his Army against the English, the reason is this (said he) that I wait for Intelligence from my People at Ohio, before I shall sett off and I think it will be to Lake George.— That the Canawagas further told the Indians, that there were 100. of their People, and 40, Schowendadees, ready and waiting to Join the French Army.—

A true Copy,

From the Records.—

PETER WRAXALL Secry.—

INDIAN INTELLIGENCE

*Contemporary Copy*¹

Copy *Fort Johnson 28th: April 1757. . . P. M.*

The Information of the Chief man of the Nanticohe, and the head man of the Connaye Indians, who arrived here this Afternoon.—

Present.—

Sir William Johnson —

PETER WRAXALL Secry.—

The Chief man of the Nanticokes spoke good english, and gave the following Intelligence.

“That Eight days after Pazinosa a Chief of the Shawanese left home to come here, his Youngest Son arrived at Otsiningo from Fort du Quesne, (which by their Computation is 24. days ago.) which he left 14 days before.— he brought an Account, that at Fort du Quesne, he saw 400. Indians from the Westward, and that at the next Fort to it were 300. more.— That he saw the 400, Set off towards Potomack, with a number of French and 3. Officers — That the 300. were preparing to set off, for Niagara, and were to go from thence to Oswego, were they were to be Joined by another Body from Canada; and that when these two Bodies met, they were to proceed downwards to the Mohawk River, and not Stop till they came to Albany.— and that the said Indians at Fort du Quesne told Pazinosa’s Son to warn all his Nation and Friend Indians to avoid coming to Sir William Johnsons lest they might be taken for, and treated as Enemies, by the French and Indians, who were coming down that way.

The said Indian then said,

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.48, London, England. Sent by Johnson to Loudoun, and inclosed in Loudoun’s letter of April 25th to William Pitt. The date of this and the preceding paper should probably be April 23d. From the 14th to the 23d Johnson held meetings with Shawanese, Nanticokes and Mohicans. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:244–54.

Brother,

According to the Old Covenant between us, which ever party hears any News, that is of Consequence to the Other, they are to Communicate it, which we have now done, and shall Continue to do the same, as we are determined to stand by our Bretheren the English

A true Copy.—

from the Records.—

PETER WRAXALL Secry.—

INDORSED: Copy.

Indian Intelligence from

Sir William Johnson.

Fort Johnson April 28th. 1757.

in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of April
25th: 1757.

4

FROM ROBERT CATHERWOOD

A. L. S.

Albany May y^e: 13 1757

DR: SR: WM:

As soon as I Arrived here I waited upon General Webb who also expected you down for which purpose he said he would have wrote you but Mr: Oglivie said he knew of a oportunity I would [] acquaint you with y^e: General's Intentions, from what I hear from some Gentlemen Im persuaded y^t. Lord Loudoun upon y^r: Applycation will order me back from N York for whence I shall in halfe an hour take my Departure

I shal Use all my Interest with his L^d: ship to return but should take it as a perticular favour if you would be so kind as Intercede which I am sure will Be granted as a Surgeon is wanted & none can be spared from this if you will please honour me with a line & please send it by post and Direct to me at Mr. Hugh

Wallace's Merch^t: In N York y^e: Many obligations I am under to you exacts my most grateful acknowledgments I have much to say but time will not permit but shal write more fully when I can have more at York one word of which I will not omit I beg you would please write soon to York my Best Compl^{ts}: to all y^r. Family & Believe me Dr. Sr:

Your most Respectful
Much Obliged & Very
Humble Servant

ROBT CATHERWOOD

FROM SIR CHARLES HARDY

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:744 – 45, is a letter of May 16th from Sir Charles Hardy to Johnson, desiring him to dissuade the Stockbridge Indians from meddling further in the troubles of the Livingston manor.

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.

*Col. Glens*¹ 19 May [1757]

DEAR SIR WILLIAM

About 4 oClock this Morning I received your Packet for Gen^l. Webb & your favour to me. Immediately sent the Generals over to Capt. Ogilvie² who intended setting off this Morning for Albany & that if he did not go early to apply for an Express.

I suspect a considerable Body in several large Parties will fall upon this River & I am affraid so suddenly as to make a great Destruction, our Garrisons, if they deserve that name, I fear will be of little good. My private Concern is for you & yours. I doubt not you will keep out constant scouts round you & be prepared for your Defence.

¹ At the present Scotia, in Schenectady county.

² Captain William Ogilvie, of the New York regiment.

I have not & shall not make the least Mention of the Intelligence you give me. in all respects I shall endeavour to be upon my guard against either open or secret Enemies.

I expected Tom Jones here before now, tis half an hour past 9. he went over to Sower¹ & is not returned.

Cap^t. Wells² received my Letter got a Party took up my two Desirters & last night to my great joy they were bro^t. here. When you have occasion to write him please to Compliment his Dilligence & provoke him to continue it. I gave the Party 3 Pistoles w^{ch}. was 7/ more than their due. pray pay Wyndecher 10 shillings for the Express or more if you think it his due. I agreed for 10.

Claas & his Party were expected at Schenectady last night.

Send out white Scouts. dont depend too much on those Votaries to Rum.

Gods Blessing be upon You. I am truly

My Dear Sir William

Your Sincere & Affect^{te}

Friend & Servant

PETER WRAXALL

FROM HENRY I. WENDELL

A. L. S.

[Albany May 24th 1757³]

[]

I take the Opertunity [] Indian You Sent With
[] killed Last night and Dragged []
by the murder's whom are as yet not [] I am afraid
this affair will Give you a great [] trouble as well
as hurt the Service, the Indian Is stabbed in the head. I waited

¹ This is probably Captain Thomas Sowers, a British engineer.

² John Wells, of Cherry Valley, captain in the second battalion of Albany county militia.

³ The date is supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

upon Generell Webb Last night whom told me he had not a word from my Lord Concerning me, that my Lord Is So Excessively Busy a gitting away, but that he had Wrote to My Lord about me, and Likewise told me my Lord had not Wrote to you Yet, but his Vast hurry forgits it, I beg You Will be so Good as Immediately Write to Lord Loudoun, as I am afraid he Will be Gone, I have Wrote fully and Mentioned What You told me to my Lord, and beg You Will Send Down the Letters if Mr: Clause has found them, I have Told Mr. Ogilvie what You told me, but there Where no Letters yet, I hope to hear from You Soone,

And Beleive Me to be With Respect

Sir:

Your most Obed^t Humble Ser^t

HENRY I: WENDELL

P. S.

My Complim^{ts} to Mr. Clause Johnson and your family

JOHN BRADSTREET'S ORDER AND DANIEL WEBB'S WARRANT

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 88, by Captain John Bradstreet's order on Johnson for £359, 2s, 6^d in favor of P. V. B. Livingston and William Bayard, Livingston and Bayard's indorsement in favor of George Turner, and Turner's receipt, drawn June 3d at New York and addressed to Captain Philip J. Schuyler, Albany; and Major General Daniel Webb's warrant to Abraham Mortier for paying £2000 sterling to Johnson, drawn June 3d at Albany. These papers were destroyed by fire.

FROM PIETER D. SCHUYLER AND OTHERS

A. L. S.

Canajoharie June the 6, 1757

SIR

these few <Lines are to Acquint> Your honour that the onyde <Indeins have> Brouth francks Son home and <toke him from> the franch Indeins and the ware ondago <Indeins>

wich Lives att Swegoatse wich toke the Boy and Sir, Paulis
 Desired Mee to write Your honour that there is a leven franch
 Indeins in the woods about Your hous wich has a mind to take
 Your honour or to Schulp Your honour And there is one
 Indeins with them wich Belonged once to this Castle and his Name
 is Antony hee has a Peace out of his nose hee is to take a walke
 with Your honour and soo to take or Schulp You and the Indeins
 Desire Your honour to Bee upon Your geard Sir

from Your frind and Most obedant

Humble Servent

PIETER D^s: SCHUYLER

PAULIS PETERS

menhaniyo

ovonyadekha

To

SIR WILLEAM JOHNSON Barronet

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 88, by Johnson's letter of June 18th to the lords of trade, considering decline of English influence with Six Nations, a proposed change of policy toward upper nations and present relations with Pennsylvania Indians (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:745-48; Q. 2:433-35 and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:227-29, where it is dated June 25). This paper was destroyed in the fire.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:254-66, is a journal of Johnson's proceedings with Senecas, Cayugas, Onondagas and Oneidas from June 10 to 20 in an effort to bring them to an active participation in the war. Inclosed in the preceding.

TO WILLIAM DENNY

Copy ¹

Fort Johnson 22 June 1757

SIR

I have just concluded a Meeting with the Senecas, Cayugas and Onondagers and herewith I transmit you Extracts of what passed relative to the Delawares and Shawonese.— I did intend myself the Honour of writing more at large in consequence of this Congress, but I am still so surrounded, and my Time so wholly and so unavoidably taken up with Indians, that it is not in my Power to do it. As I am unwilling to delay acquainting you with particulars, I hope You will excuse my referring You to my Letter to Mr. Atkins, which Governor Delancey will transmit You herewith, and You will please to seal it, and forward it with the Papers enclosed to Mr. Atkins by the first good opportunity

I have the Honour to be
with the greatest Esteem

Sir

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant

W^m. Johnson

P. S. In reading over my Letter to Mr. Atkins, I think it proper to explain myself to You more explicitly on that Part of it, wherein I say, *that if the Government of Pennsylvania push on War with one Hand, and Peace with the other, they will have a ticklish and hazardous Part to act*, by which I do not intend a Censure upon encouraging the Catawbias and Cherokees to act in our Favour, but that if We do not properly support them and that System in the Consequences which may flow from it, the Scheme may be attended with Effects very much to the

¹ In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Manuscripts — Official Correspondence, VIII, 1756–57.

Disadvantage of yours and the neighbouring Southern Governments.—

I am

Your most obedient

W^m. Johnson

To the Honoble WILLIAM DENNY Esq^{re}.

DANIEL WEBB TO ABRAHAM MORTIER

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 88, is Major General Daniel Webb's warrant to Abraham Mortier for paying £2000 sterling to Sir William Johnson; dated June 23. It was destroyed in the fire.

DEPOSITION OF JEAN NERBAN

A. D.¹

<June 27th. 1757

1 Where were you born

In Lorain — Jean Nerban

2 How> long Since you come <to Canada, & How>

near 8 years Since he arrived <at Quebec wth. 1600 Men for y^e Marine Service>

3 Where have you been ever Since

part of the time at Louisbough, <part of the time at Trois> Rivere when that Village was burnt. <He was at the> taking of Oswego wth. Mr. M^t. Calm from <thence went> to Frontenack, from thence in the Winter to <Trois Rivere> thence to S^t. Johns from thence to Crown Point where they all assembled to march agst. Lake George wth. 1800 French, & ab^t. 400 Ind^s.— Commded by Mr. Vaudruely 5 Men killed, 2 Ind^s. wounded.

He remained at Crown Point since y^e. Att^{ck}. agst. Fort W^m. Hennery.

How were they Supplied wth. prov^s. at that garrison

1½^{lb} bread ☉ Day, & ¼^{lb} of pork ☉ Day Each Man.

¹ In Johnson's handwriting.

Q did they expect a greater allowance

A it depended upon the arrival of Vessels from Europe

Q Whether any arrived before he was taken

A None, that there was a Pilot Boat Sent to See if any Vessels were in the River comeing up, not returned. Provisions Scarce in general, & if none arrive soon must be verry Scarce 200 Men in Crown Point — all Marine, Cap Louisiane¹ Comd^s. there. but 8 Men sick — No Rum allowed — 2000 Men at Tiendarogo of wh. 3 Batt^s. are Regulars consisting of abt. 400 Men Each — the rest Marine — 150 Ind^s. also at Carilon who went there abt. 24 days ago. the Troops at Carilon pritty Healthy now the last Winter the Troops had Double mounting wh. they Value at abt. 50 Dollars Each <Amunition plenty at all the Forts, but that at Carilon got wett by the Magazines being leaky. there is a redoubt of stone at> Crown Point in wh. <and in the Fort there are> abt. 45 p^s. Canon none exceeding <12 pounders —> Mortars, except one Small one, <80 p^s. od Canon> at Carilon the largest 24^{lb} pounders <Some Mor>tars wh. were taken at Osswego are also there. <No> works carrying on at Crown Point.

at Carilon they are building a Redoubt, or outwork — there are 36 Battoes at Carilon for carrying Artillery to Fort W^m. Hennery, and more makeing at St. Johns, they have also Carriages ready for Carrying them over the Carrying place. He says that Gen^l. M^t. Calms Comeing depends on the Arrival of more Troops from Europe, & provisions. then He is to make a discent this way they heard nothing of a Design agst Quebec, but about a Month ago had news that about 40 English Vessels lay before Louisbough — He does not know from whence the News came. He Says they have no Intelligence from those parts that he knows of, but from our Prisoners, who are verry well used, and allowed to Work abroad at 15 livres p Month & provisions.

Six Hundred Canadians, or Militia went for Fort DuQuesne Early in the Spring, by Water, & depend on the Provisions taken

¹ Paul Louis Dazemard, Sieur de Lusignan.

at Osswego wh. was immediately Sent to Niagara for that purpose, except what they used while in Camp at Frontenack. there were but 100 Men in garison at Fort DuQuesne last Winter 150 at Niagara 50 at Frontenack — One Battallion throwing up Work round St. Johns, one D^o. at M^t. Real & another at Quebeck, No Irish Brigades in Canada, nor any who wear red Regimentalls. The great Encouragement <given the Indians only Sett them on, without that He thinks they would do nothing. little or no rewards now given for> Scalps or <Prisoners, but as much feasting as the Indians> please at going out, & <on their Return. they also go into the> Stores, & take New <Guns, & Cloathing of all kinds fitt for> Ind^s. when & as often as they <loose any or ask> for them. that they <have as much provisions> as they please, or can Eat.

Mons^r. Bourle Mague¹ Com^{ds}. at Carilon ab^t. 40 year <old.> He is a Captⁿ.
provisions kept in the Fort.

FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

Copy ²

[June, 1757?]

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON. Bar^t

SIR

I have been so hurried of late that I have not had it in my power to answer several of your letters fully which I have received of late, but am now sit down to do it before I set out from hence.

I am very sensible of the situation in which the Indian affairs were, when the King did you the honor to appoint you to the management of them; & you will remember that in all the con-

¹ Chevalier de Bourlamaque, colonel, and third in command of the French forces.

² In Library of Congress, Force Transcripts, Miscellaneous, v. 3.

versations I have had with you on that subject, I have always said that this did, not appear to me to be a time when they could be brought to rights entirely; that all that could be reasonably expected from you was to keep up the interest you had among them; to watch every motive of theirs, and as far as possible to prevent their joining with the enemy at present and to get what assistance you could from them in the mean time — And I went so far in giving my opinion in which you agreed with me, that I thought the general method of managing all Indians had proceeded on a wrong principle. That the having great meetings, at which very few or any of their principal men were present and giving great presents to those who had no influence was a great expense & answered no good purpose. And that the making them promises to redress the grievances they complained of whether just or unjust and performing none of those promises was the thing that had lost our credit among them & had taught them to think as little of their engagements with us, as we did with them —

That it was my opinion at present we should change that method & treat them like men & talk truth to them; shew them we were sensible of the manner in which they had behaved to us; that now they must declare themselves, for, if they were not friends, we should look on them as enemies & be on our guard accordingly; And in the mean time to be cautious in giving them presents particularly Arms & ammunition as I did not find that they made use of them for us; and I had great reason to believe they were employed against us; besides this, that I could not look on them as our friends, whilst I found that even those that were with us as friends the one day were the next with the enemy which could be of no other purpose, but to carry them intelligence of our strength, situation, and what accounts they could get of our motions. That whilst things continue on this footing, they are the most dangerous of all spies, acting with impunity — And that as we had no intelligence of that sort by the Enemy Indians, it was, giving the French an advantage I could not submit to —

As this is the true case, & as by my accidental, tho' tolerably certain intelligence I am informed that the Senecas have declared for the French & that, as they are at present the most powerful of the Six Nations & threaten the others if they do not join with them, insomuch that even the Mohawks who live at the greatest distance from them, have had it under consideration, whether to retire back among us or to join with the Senecas & take up the Hatchet against us; common prudence makes it necessary that we should be very sparing both in Arms & Ammunition; and give none at present to any, but such as we are well assured will use them for us against the enemy — for it will be very difficult for us to justify arming of men against the King our Master & destroy our fellow-subjects.

So far past in conversation between us formerly; and then I understood that you agreed with me in opinion & now it appears to me that at the best, the Onandages, Tuscaroras, Oneidas, & even the Mohawks are only wavering in their good intentions towards us — The Mohawks, I think, from your personal interest you will be able to prevent going in body at once to join the enemy; but from my information I am afraid you will find difficulty to keep all their young people from taking the other side; and altho' they should not get any great acquisition of strength, still they will by them get constant intelligence of our strength and motion —

Therefore, I can not help thinking that even to them, it is proper to hold the language that you & I agreed on last winter, that they must either be friends or foes — Their neighbourhood to us, puts them in our power; and whatever apprehensions they may pretend to have of the power of the enemy, this furnishes them with a sufficient excuse not to join them except their own inclinations go strongly that way; and if they will join the enemy we must treat them accordingly —

The Oneidas and Tuscaroras are likewise not so far removed from us but we can come at them likewise; nor do I think the Onondagas out of my power neither — The Senecas are indeed at present too far removed from us to be come at —

I am the farthest from intending to break with those people — I mean to cherish & support them as allies of the King my Master & to keep up strictly to the treaties subsisting between them; and where they have just complaints to represent them and do everything in my power to get them redressed —

But on the other hand, if they will break these treaties & join with the common enemy of the Peace of Numbers and attack my Master's subjects, I think it my duty to treat them in the same manner I do my Master's other enemies; and in the mean time whilst their behavior gives just cause of suspicion, it is necessary for us to act with them with great circumspection — I have here given you my opinion on the situation we are in with the Indians, with the consequences attending their continuing to act as they have done ever since I have been in this country, and the only remedy that appears to me to be left to prevent the mischiefs arising from it; and as it is plain from the general tenor of their actions that their inclinations are greatly debauched from us; and at the same time they are people who know their own interest; it is necessary to shew them the benefit and advantage they have reaped by the great expense the publick have for many years been at for them; and that their now breaking their treaties with us will not only deprive them of those emoluments; but that we are now in a condition, not only to defend ourselves but to do ourselves justice against all such who choose to attack us in breach of the most solemn treaties.

This is what I call treating them like men; which is, keeping the treaties with them religiously & strictly; and that is what the King my Master always does with his allies; and as a proof of his intentions towards them, on finding they had just complaints against them in whose hands he had formerly put the management of his affairs with them he has turned them out, and appointed you to manage them now under the inspection of his commander-in-chief for the time being; and if they have not been redressed as yet it has been purely owing to the unsettled state of the Colonies and to the undetermined part they themselves have acted —

And that, when this fair and friendly method in which my Master has acted by them, will not prevent their breaking the treaties subsisting between him and them, to talk openly to them; shew them the consequences that must follow their taking part with the enemy; for I am sure they can hurt us less by owning they are our enemies than by acting a double part, pretending to be friends and at the same time, giving the enemy every aid & intelligence in their power —

I likewise think it very necessary that you keep a watchful eye on the Germans and Dutch that you suspect from the informations you have received of carrying on a treasonable correspondence with the Enemy, by means of the Indians; and that you do secure their persons & papers wherever you see cause.

And here it is necessary for me to acquaint you that I have intelligence from Montreal of letters being arrived there very lately from de Coine who lives at Schenectady; those can be for no good purpose; I should have secured him on the intelligence I have, had he not been employed by you; but I must desire you will look into this affair — I have likewise information against Abiel, but those are not so strong as against de Coine.

As to Ury Weavers, carrying on the trade with the French Indians it is a very bad practice; but till we can stop that everywhere I am at a loss what to advise and must leave, it to you to manage as your own prudence shall direct you —

As to presents, I have some time ago transmitted to Major Gen^l. Webb to deliver to you an order from Sir Charles Hardy to deliver to your order all that part of the Indian presents provided by the province of New-York and now lodged at Albany, with an account of the original price they paid for them; and an order to deliver them to you if you think proper to pay that price for them — And by my last letters from the Secretary of State, I am informed that there are orders given to provide, in London, Indian presents, according to the list I received from you & they shall be sent out immediately; and I shall take care that they shall be sent to you as soon as they arrive —

I have directed M. G. Webb to give you a warrant for £2000 now & afterwards to advance such further sums as may be necessary; for I am sure that you will be as good a Husband of the publick money as you possibly can consistent with carrying on the Service —

Your application for your salary came so late that I had not time to settle this; but as you have money in your hands by those warrants that can make no difference till I return from the Campaign, when I shall regulate with you all money matters —

And in the mean time it is necessary to acquaint you that in consequence of the letter I writ at your desire relating to Mr. Croghan's appointment as assistant to you, I am empowered, if I see it necessary to appoint him to act under you in that capacity; and you are hereby empowered to employ him in that station, & if you desire it, I shall at my return give him a commission with the salary you proposed for him & you may in the mean time, if you employ him pay him at that rate.

I have ordered the treaty you sent me, to be printed by those printers you appointed & that they should apply to you for, the expense; the reason of that as well as directing that you should provide the provisions that are given to the Indians is for the regularity of the account that in this article, as well as in all my other accounts each particular service may be kept & appear separately by itself —

I have received your recommendation of Mr. Guy Johnson; I do remember your recommending him to me formerly but have mislaid the memorandum I then made, & have forgot where I am to find him & what was the particular thing you desired me to do for him: be so good as to let me know & direct your letter to Lieut. Gov. Delancey, who will forward it to me.

I have nothing now to add but to desire you will collect as many of the Indians as you can get & can have dependance on, to join Major Genl. Webb this campaign to assist in scouting-parties & in getting intelligence of the enemy; and to prevent the enemy from harassing the convoys or annoying the camps or

garrisons, which service is very material. And if they can be brought to do it will have the effect of connecting them more closely with us; for, till they will act offensively against the enemy, I shall not think them really attached to us, or to be depended on; for words, where no actions follow, carry very little weight with me.

I am with great regard, Sir,
your most obedient, humble servant,
Loudoun—

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

L. S.¹

Halifax July 1st. 1757.

SIR

Inclosed I send You Copies of Intercepted Letters from Mon^r. Kerlerec² Governor of Louisiana to the Ministry in France, together with the Preliminary Articles of a Treaty of Peace enter'd into by him, with the Cherrokee Indians, by which you will see what is going on in Indian Affairs on that side, the Knowledge of which I thought would be Matterial to You, as it may have Influence on those Indians within Your department.

I cant help likewise observing that the Opinion he there Expresses of the dependance on the Treaty's with and Promises of Indians, tho' they are to be Encouraged, are not to be so far depended on, as to Put arms and ammunition into their hands, in any Quantity till they have given Proofs of their Fidelity, and the Uses they will make of them, which You see corresponds entirely with the Opinion I form'd of Indian Affairs, as soon as I saw the Part they were acting last Season, and indeed is a very matterial Point to attend to, for if our Indians, can draw from us their Constant Maintainance with Presents and arms, and

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Louis Billouart de Kerlérec.

amunition, without doing any Service for them, but find that we can wink at their going to and Corresponding with the Enemy, they cannot help despising of us — All which I think strongly Proves the rightness of the Measure You and I agreed in last Winter of being Explicit with them.

I am with Regard

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

LOUDOUN

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

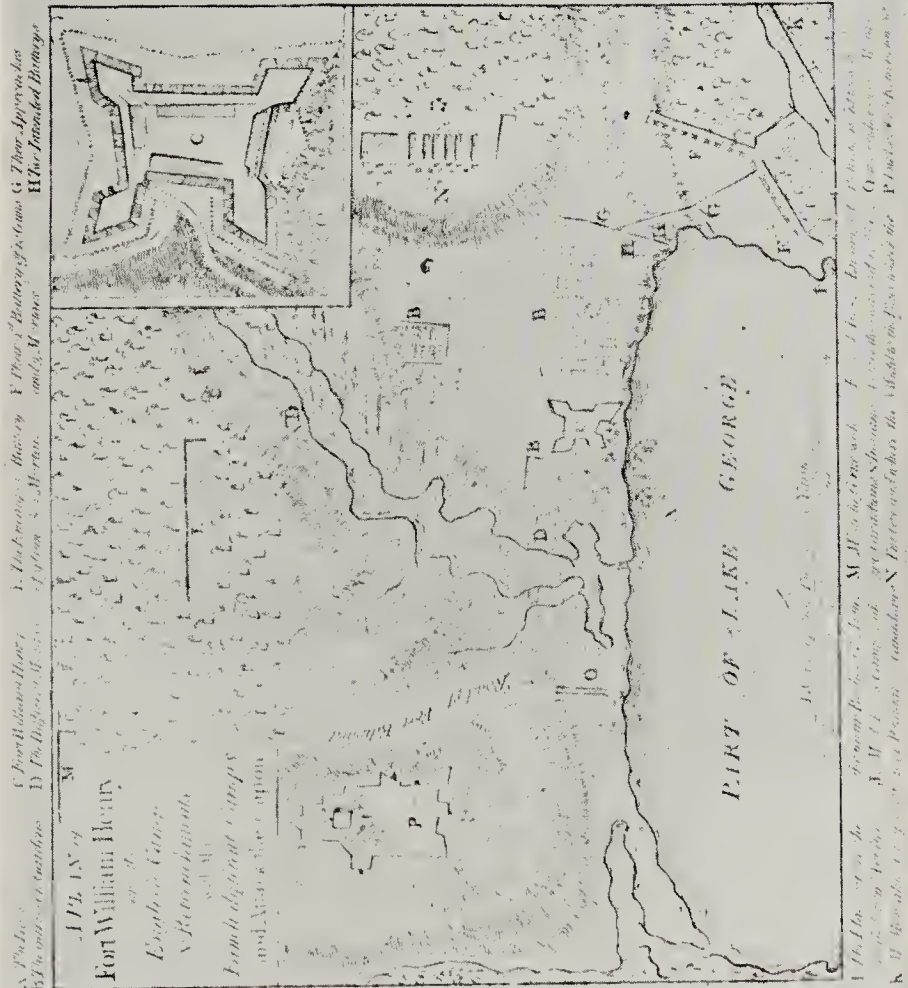
TO PETER AND ELIZABETH WRAXALL

A. Df. S.

[*Fort Johnson 17th July 1757*]

[]

I recd []
 Since you left Us, Ive []
 the German Flatts [] all
 their Women, Old Men, & Children []
 numerous than I imagined, and gave []
 wh. they are verry Scarce of, their Number []
 exclusive of the Young Men. at the latter I had that unhappy
 affair of the Ind^s. (belonging to the Party of the five Nations
 whom I fitted out to go to Canada but were murdered by Tom
 Smith) to make up. it was the most difficult Jobb I ever had, as
 the five Nations who were at the Meeting lately were all there
 yet, and so enraged Saying these made five now murdered by Us
 within a Year that I had hard work to prevent their spilling blood
 for it. However by condoleing their Death, takeing our Hatchet
 out of their Heads and severall other forms used by them, & at
 a verry considerable expence besides I made them easy for this
 time. this conduct of ours towards them is a verry great obstruc-
 tion to y^e Service, & must weaken my Influence. Just as I had



MONTCALM'S ATTACK ON FORT WILLIAM HENRY

he and y^e Comd^g. officer there may Judge Sufficient for y^e. defence of that Place, and March the remd^r. to Join you. Lt. Coll^o. Glen is to order Boats Canoes &c^a: to Nestiganny¹ and Join me with those of the 2^d. Battallion from this River & Indians there tomorrow or next day at furthest, if my Health will permit me to go. It could not have happened at a worse time, as the People are all busy with their Harvest, w^h. must now Suffer. I have my hands & Head full with some delegates from y^e. Cherokee Nation & Severall others from the Southward here also viz^t: — Oghuagoes, Nanticokes Canay^s &ca, who were this day to have had a Publick Conference. there is a party of Indians I expect will be at the Lake by this time on their return from Tiendarogo or Crown Point, by whom you may very likely have some Intelligence, or acc^u. of the Enemys Movement. I shall send two or three Spys of from here this Day with orders to bring you w^t. Intelligence they may learn. I am apt to think if they are assembled they will be pritty numerous, & make a bold push soon as it will be difficult & expensive to keep so many Indians there any time. If the Militia from New England will but come time enough, & those of the lower Countrys & here together wth. Indians can be got in so short a time, I doubt not but you may be able to give the Mos^{rs}. in ² coup Mortel w^h. God grant.—

I am D^r. Sir

y^{rs}. &c^a.

W^m. JOHNSON

To GEN^{RL}. WEBB

¹ Niskayuna.

² The copy has "in." The word written was doubtless the French article, *un*.

RETURN OF THE SECOND BATTALION

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 89, by a return of the second battalion at Fort Edward, dated August 6th. It was destroyed in the fire.

MILITIA AT FORT EDWARD

D. S.

August 12, 17, 1757

<A General Return of the Millittia Encamp^d near Fort Edward>

The Reg ^t . under Com<mand of> }	<1676	Private>
Sir William Johnson.....		
Coll. Hoffman	< 877	d ^o >
Coll. Hardenberg	< 250	d ^o >
Coll. Ellison	< 281	d ^o >
Coll. Dekay	< 261	d ^o >
Maj ^t . Ashly	210	d ^o
Coll ⁿ . Whitney	641	d ^o
Cap ^t . Nicholl Comp ^y Troop.....	43	d ^o
		4239 p ^r . Men

August 12th. 1757W^m. JOHNSON

On back is the following:

<A General Return of the Millitia now encamped near Fort Edward The Reg^t under Command of

Sr. W ^m . Johnson>.....	1403
<Coll: Hoffman>	300
<Coll: Whitney>	708
<Maj ^r : Hubbard>	177
<Maj ^r Ashly>	240
<Cap ^t . Nicholls> Comp ^y . of Troop.....	43
<Cap:> Taulkett	60
	2931
camp near Fort Edw ^d 17 th Aug ^t . 1757	2931

Camp near Fort Edw^d 17th Aug^t. 1757



SITE OF FORT WILLIAM HENRY

DESERTERS FROM FORT EDWARD

A list of the Dessirters that <have this> 14th Day of August
1757 Desirted <from fort> Edward

John Petr Row	John Petr Snider
Peter Killmor	Grickson Frisbey .
John Link	Nicholas Smith
Nicholas Vellar	Nicholas Fickles Jun
Jacob Walter	Hendrick Feats
John Barner	Jacob Smith
Gorg William Zuffelt	John Wilstie
John Hoftaillen	Christian Crots
William Killmor	Peter Killmor
John Go ^{er} Rearick	Hannis Snider
Michal Row Jun	John Carttee
Fredrick Row	Abraham Freer
Hendrick Row	Adam Beam
Hendrick Wever	William Snider
Hantice Wever	Johanis Cryslor
John Wever	Adam Clumb
Adam Clumb	

INDORSED: Cap. Viely
10 men here
30 Deserted

There is of men belonging to the
Company of Arnout Viele Cap^t.
in Number forty

FROM JAMES DE LANCEY

A. L. S.

<Albany 19 August 1757>

SIR:

As his Majesty's <Ministers will> expect from me an account <of what number> of Militia of this Province marched up <at the> requisition of General Webb to his as<sistance at Fort> Edward and at what times, in consequence <of the> orders sent by me; I must desire you will inform me, when you got up to Fort Edward, and with what number of men and when the field officers & others of your Regiment joined you and with what numbers, that I may know the whole of the Militia of your Regiment that were at Fort Edward with you. And I desire also that you will acquaint me, what were the motives, if you have learnt them of the great and scandalous desertion of the Militia of this Province. And as many officers are wanting in the Regiment under your command I desire you will give me a list of the Names of persons to fill up the Vacancy's, that this¹ before I leave this place, having brought up commissions for this purpose with me I am

Sir

Your most humble Servant

JAMES DE LANCEY

The Hon^{ble} SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart.

ADDRESSED: To the Honorable

Sir William Johnson Baronet

INDORSED: Gov^r. DeLanceysLetter. August 19th 1757

FROM WILLIAM CORRY

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:762-63; Q, 2: 442-43, is a letter of August 25th from William Corry, at Albany, to Johnson concerning appointments to judicial places and to the sheriff's office.

¹ Torn before the fire; "be done" was probably written.

COLONAL JACOB GLEN'S RETURN

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 89, is Colonel Glen's return of officers wanted in five Schenectady companies, dated August 27th. Destroyed in the fire.

FROM GEORGE BARTMAN

*A. L. S.*¹

Fort Edward August 29th 1757

SIR

I am directed by General Webb to acquaint you that as the Expedition against Louisbourg is now at an end, and Lord Loudoun is daily expected from Halifax with eight Battalions; he would be glad if you would write immediately by express to his Lordship at New York, informing him of the present State of Indian Affairs, and what number you can in case of necessity bring into the Field.

The Letter must be sent Express to the care of the L^d: Governor who will deliver it.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

G. BARTMAN²

Aid de Camp

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

INDORSED: A Letter from M. Gen^l. Webb — received
it Wednesday 31st Aug^t. 1757

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² Captain George Bartman, of the 44th regiment.

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

A. Df. S.¹<Albany 5th 7^{br}. 1757

SIR>

I had <the Honour of y^{rs}. of the 29th¹ Ult.> by the Post, <which was not sealed.>

I here inclose <you a List of the best> Men I can find to fill up the Va<cancys in the 2^d.> Battallion of the Regiment of Militia, <which is> Much wanted. I find the Commissions are come up for Compleating the 1st Battallion agreeable to the List I delivered in, except the Troop, which is and has been poorly officered, as is notorious by their want of horses &^{ca}. I belive Sir (from the late Conduct, & Misbehaviour of many of the officers & Men) you will think it indispensably necessary to have Articles of War established as Soon as may be.

A good Bold active & experienced Man to act as adjutant to the Regiment with a reasonable Sallary, or pay, would be of the utmost Service In those times, I do not mean that such an officer, Should be meerly employed to learn them their Exercise, as verry little of that is requisite for this Country, but to see Some order observed in our Marching, Encamping &^{ca}, and above all to carry orders to the Feild officers, & Serjants & see that they Carry them to their respective Capt^s without which there never can be any Service done or any orders observed. I would beg leave to recommend Mr. Hennery Wendall late Ensign in Sr. W^m. Pepperill's Rgm^t. as a proper Person for that Service, haveing had a Triall of him at Fort Edward lately, where he discharged his Duty verry well, there are many Poor People in the Regiment who are not able to purchase Arms, or Amunition, wherefore I doubt not but you will recommend it to the consideration of the House, Who I flatter myself will think it wrong to have a Number of Men on a Frontier useless for the want of Arms & Amu-

¹ DeLancey left Albany for New York August 21st, as he informed the Council and Assembly on September 2d.

nitien. with 200 Arms I belive the 2^d Battallion might be compleated.

<As I suppose the law against buying exchanging, or takeing in pawn any kind of arms, Cloathing, or Amunition, from any Indian, or Indians within this government, or from any of their Women or Children is expired, I> hope Sir you will get it <revived & continued at least dureing> the War, as it will tend greatly <to the good of his Majestys> Service.

the Mayor by letter let me know <it was y^r> desire I should be acquainted with your inten<tions of haveing a New> Commission of the Peace soon made out, & that you were pleased to desire I would recommend proper Persons, I am highly oblidge to You Sir for the Indulgence and assure you I shall never make a bad use of it. In consequence of which I send you a List of Persons I think as well qualified for it as any I know. the few alterations made I am sensible are for the better. If those recommended meet y^r. approbation it will give me the greatest pleasure, as I have nothing more at Heart than the good of the Publick, & to have it in my power to convince You that I am with the most Cordial Sincerity

Sir

Your Most obedient

& Most Humble Servant

W^m. JOHNSON

P. S. This day the Widdow Bratt who in the late War kept Tavern, & Supplied the French officers &^{ca} who came wth. the Severall Flaggs of Truce & wth. provisions &^{ca}. & for w^{ch}. I was oblidge to pass my Word, applied to me for the Money still due to her, being ab^t. £148 & insists on my paying it. which I think would be verry hard, & more than the Province Could expect, wherefore hope something may be done in it.

To the Hon^{ble}. JAMES DELANCEY

Lieu^t. Gov^r. of New York

TO THOMAS POWNALL

*Contemporary Copy*¹*Albany, 8th. 7^{ber}. 1757*

DEAR SIR,

My Lord How delivered me Your Favour at Fort Edward.—

I have been, and still am, however unsuccessful, so constantly engaged by Relation to the publick, that it denies me the privilege of obeying the Calls of private Friendship, or the Disposal of any Time, which I may properly call my Own, such has been my Case during Your Stay in England, and such has it been, since I had the Favour of Your Letter before Me.

Last July,² at a Meeting at my House, the Senecas, Cayugaes, and Onondagaes declared their Intentions of observing a Neutrality between us and the French & since that Time I have seen few of them, and transacted no Business with them. Whether they will resist the Application of the French, if they make any to them to break this Neutrality, is, I think, a doubtful Question; however, as yet they have not to my Knowledge broke it. The Tuscaroras and Oneidas have made no positive Declarations. The former, I suspect, are by no Means warm in our Interest; The latter are divided amongst themselves, and the Majority I fear, in Favour of the French. The Mohawks remain staunch, but very expensive and troublesome. The Oghuagoe Indians, and some others settled on the Susquahanna, and its' Branches, may, I think be depended on. The Stockbridge and New England Indians I call our own. I believe, upon three Weeks or a Month's Notice, and our Affairs not changing for the worse. I cou'd muster for Service near 400 in all —

The French priest and Indians settled at Swegatchy, debauch many of the upper Nations from us, and by inspiring them with popish Superstition & Religious Venom against us, will, I fear, put it beyond our Power to retrieve our Interest amongst them.

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.888, London, England.

² This meeting was held in June, the 10th to the 20th, instead of July.

The German Flatts are constantly harrassed by Scalping Parties. 'Tis reported, & I fear may turn out so, that a considerable Party will soon come down, & overrun that Settlement. Many of the Inhabitants are already fled; Those who remain say they dare not stay much longer. There are some of the New York provincials posted at Harkemere's House there. They are no Protection to the Inhabitants; as they are under no Order to scout, they keep in & about the House.— Under the present Situation of our Publick Affairs, I can think of no Measures to encrease our Indian Interest. To keep the little we have steady, is all I can expect to do. I can think of no Method so likely to protect our Frontiers from the Depredations of Enemy Indians and Canadians, & counterballance the Enemy's Advantage over us that Way, as a sufficient, well chosen, and well-directed Body of Rangers; These might not only protect us, but annoy the Enemy, dishearten their Indians, and animate our Own.

If a Treaty of Limitation of Country with the Indians, upon Condition they shou'd insist upon the French quitting their Forts along the Lakes & Rivers, or declare against them if they refused it, was thought adviseable, and wou'd be submitted to on our Side, provided the Indians shou'd insist upon our giving up a part of what is called our Frontiers; I say, if such a Treaty was thought adviseable, was directed to be put on Foot from proper Authority, and the Indians wou'd come into it, which I think they might; I believe 'tis the only Measure left us to overset the French Indian Interest, and confound the plan of Dominion they are pursuing; unless we can weaken them by such considerable Conquests, as will force the Indians to side with us, as Conquerors upon this Continent.— This plan will be so mortifying to the great patentees, and to the Pestilential Thirst of Land, so Epidemic thro' all the provinces, that I imagine it wou'd occasion too general an Opposition to be brought about.

I have not yet had Time to take under mature Consideration the papers transmitted to me from the board of Trade, and

sundry others relative to the same subject, which Mr. Croghan has brought me from Pensylvania, where he attended, as my Deputy, at Indian Conferences, with the Delaware, and other Indians — I find the Evil Spirit of party Politicks, or rather of Faction, doth already, and will pervert Indian Management there, from the solid System of one general Interest, where the Welfare of the Whole shou'd be the animating Motive, and the End invariably aim'd at.

The Affair is important; I propose to enter upon it soon, when I shall transmit to the Lords of Trade my Observations upon the Proprietors Representation to them, in which they have been either Misinformed themselves, or imposed upon that Board.

I am, with cordial Sincerity,

Dear Sir,

Your Excellency's

most obedient

and most humble Servant

W^m. Johnson

Copy

His Excellency GOVERNOR POWNALL

INDORSED: Copy. Masachusetts Bay
a Letter from S^r. W^m. Johnson
to His Excellency, Gov^r. Pownall
Albany, Sept^r. 8th. 1757.—
Received with Gov^r.
Pownalls Lre of 26
Sep^r. 1757.

Received Nov^r. 21 }
Read 23 } 1757

li. 17.

2.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Df.*¹*Fort Johnson 16 Sep^r. 1757*

SIR

This afternoon I was honoured with your favour by John Bowin. I staid two days longer in Albany than I otherwise intended, in hopes of the pleasure of welcoming you there, but some Indians who were waiting for me here made it necessary for me to hasten home.

When I returned from Fort Edward I reproached the Indians very severely for having² the Camp in the manner they did & spoke to them Very warmly upon it. herewith I send you the answer they gave me, w^{ch} if you judge Necessary, you will please to transmit to His Lordship, as also the inclosed Information this morning given me by a trusty Cayouge Sachem.

I wrote His Lordship from Albany a long Letter³ wherein I gave him the best account in my power of our Indian Interest this way & what Number I thought I could gather together for Service that Letter did not reach his Lordships hands till you had set off.

I likewise mentioned to his Lordship the distressed Situation of the Germans at Burnets field, and that I feared if the Enemy continued their Scalping Parties those People would break up & abandon their Habitations, they having represented to me that they were too few & too poor to endeavour to protect themselves by keeping out Scouting Parties. They say the Troops posted there as they keep within the Bounds of their Garrison are no cover or protection to them, their Habitations being Scattered & distant, and that was the Garrison Stronger it would not avail them the more, against the sudden attacks of Scalping Parties. and Sir as you are pleased to ask my Opinion, I shall freely give

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² "Having" in the copy; leaving was probably written.

³ Not found.

it, that the scattered Settlements on these Frontiers will not I apprehend be effectually protected from the Scalping Parties but by a suff^t. Number of Men qualified for Ranging kept out in constant & well directed Scouts.

As Troops can be spared, to Garrison the several Posts up this River as strongly as they will admit, seems to me the best Method to be in readiness to oppose any considerable Body of the Enemy if they should make an attempt this way as these could quickly & easily be drawn together & make a Stand.

It is not in my power to give you the State of the Force at the different Posts on this River, as I have not made any late Enquirys or had any Opportunity of knowing it.

I have also heard it averred that several Indians of the five Nations were with the French at Lake George. At the French Settlement at Swagachie live several Indians of the five Nations, some of them might be there. I asked Cap^t: Butler who is well acquainted with all the 5 Nations who live this way, & he told me he did not see one of them. Many of the 5 Nations & several River Indians have within these few Years past left this Province & gone to Canada, some of these might be there for ought I know, but Mr. Butler says he did not see above 3 or 4 of them — Many of the Cagnawagas & also the Scocktokoce Indians talk English — some of our people who were at the Lake asserted they saw particular Indians who I knew were at that time in their Castle. I believe none were there who are not avowedly gone over to the French & live in Canada, and I believe the Informers are mistaken either by resemblances or hearing them talk English, it was a time of too much hurry for them to make accurate Observations, & some Facts were strongly asserted w^{ch} afterwards were found to be quite Erronious —

About Schohere & Kats Kilns live a number of Mohikander & River Indians, most of them have been here within these few days & some are now here; none of them I am sure are clad in any

Plunder they took at Lake George. They are indeed Lazy & Saucy enough, but I am positive there's no Truth in the Story you have heard about their Lake George Plunder.

P. S. 17th. Sep^r.

Sir

This Morning Cap^t. Wraxall acquainted me he has received a Letter from his Lieu^t: Mr. Colhoun¹ telling him it is your orders that he should immediately come down to Albany. As I am surrounded with Indians of several Nations I am under a necessity of detaining him a day or two when I hope to dispatch them & propose to come to Albany to wait on y^o. myself, I therefore take the Liberty to stop Mr. Wraxall till I receive your answer by the Bearer, w^{ch} I hope you will not disapprove.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY G. CHRISTIE

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 89, is an offer of reward for capture of two Frenchmen escaped from the fort at Albany; dated September 16th and signed G. Christie, A. D. Q. M. G. Destroyed by fire.

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:324-28, is a journal of Johnson's proceedings, July 31st and September 10-20, with the Six Nations and Cherokees, looking to cooperation in the war.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 90, is Johnson's letter of September 22^d to the lords of trade on observations of the proprietors of Pennsylvania on a paragraph of Johnson's letter of September 10th, 1756 to the lords of trade (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:748-56; Q, 2:435-39, and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:329-33). Destroyed by fire.

¹ Lieutenant Alexander Colhoun, of the New York regiment.

TO WILLIAM DENNY

*Df.*¹*Albany 25 Sep^r 1757.*

SIR

Four Deputies from the Cherokee Indians who were sent by their Chiefs on a visit of Friendship to the Six Nations, with whom they have had a Meeting at my House & by whom they are charged with a Message & Invitation in conjunction with me to their Nation & others to the Southward in our Alliance, to hold a Congress at my House in order to renew & strengthen their mutual Alliance & Friendship — these Deputies are now setting off from hence for their own Country accompanied by some Indians of the Six Nations. They will pass thro your Province & City, and as their speedily delivering the Message they are charged with may be a point of considerable Moment to His Majestys Interest & Service I beg leave to recommend it to you to do what lays in your power to forward their Journey, to prevent them & the Indians who accompany them from being delayed by any interfering Conduct of your Scheming Quakers, or by an imprudent Quantity of Liquor being giving them, as these things may over set the advantages hoped for from their Journey

I am

with the greatest esteem

Sir

Your most

&c.

To The Hon^{ble}W^m. DENNY Esq^r.Gov^r. of Pensilvania

¹ Destroyed by fire. A contemporary copy of this letter is in the Washington Papers in the Library of Congress.

TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 90, by a letter of September 28th, written at Albany to the lords of trade by Johnson, on differences with proprietors of Pennsylvania, Indian jealousy of settlers, Mr Croghan's transactions, conduct of Quakers, Cherokee alliance, designs of French governor at New Orleans, loss of Fort William Henry and state of Indian affairs (*Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:276-79); George Croghan's remarks, undated, on causes of disaffection of Pennsylvania Indians and Six Nations (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:756-61; Q, 2:439-42); references, undated, to support charges of Indian complaint about lands said to be purchased in Pennsylvania (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:761-62; Q, 2:442); and a communication of October 5 from Onohaghguage chiefs, informing Johnson of an Indian party going to war against the English (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:763-64; Q, 2:443-44). These papers were destroyed by fire. All printed in the above volumes.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:321-24, is a letter, undated, from George Croghan to Johnson, describing Quaker interference with Indian proceedings at Easton in July. In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:763, is a letter of October 4th from Johnson to James De Lancey, reporting threats of attack on Minisink and Esopus.

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

Copy ¹

Albany, Oct. 12th. 1757

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSTON — Bar^t. at Fort Johnston —
SIR,

With yours of the 11th ² I am just now favored and I shall transmit to-morrow a copy of the letter of the Onohaghguage Sachems to Lieut. Gov^r. Delancey who in consequence of some mischief the Indians had done back of the Glass house had got a party of fifty men of Perry's regiment sent there, who are to be relieved as soon as possible by Capt. Thody and 100 men of the

¹ In Library of Congress, Force Transcripts, Miscellaneous, v. 3.

² Not found.

New-York reg^t., who I hope will prevent any more mischief in that quarter —

I am expecting Lord Loudoun every tide to whom I shall communicate your letter and intelligence — He will be very well pleased to hear the stroke the Indians have struck and that more are out upon the same service. There should be some signal agreed upon atwixt them and the Rangers to prevent mistakes — In the mean time I shall acquaint Gen^l. Webb that you have sent parties of Indians out —

I am with great regard

Sir

your most obedient

humble servant.

James Abercromby —

FROM THOMAS GUNTER

A. L. S.

Boston 12th Octobr. 1757

I crave your excuse in the Liberty I take in this, [] in the Month of April 1756 Viz^t 16th. a Young Gentleman (seeming [] and said his Name was Guy Johnson, & brought me a Letter from [] Markham (who was then at the Academy at Portsmouth) recommending this Mr. Johnson to me for any assistance he might want to get to N. York for that you was his Uncle and had sent for him, this was also Confirmed by Mr Johnson, The request he made to me was to lend him Ten Pounds Sterlg to carry him to N. York where he said he should have money enough from his Uncles Correspondents; I replyd to him that I wonderd General Johnson, should send for his Nephew and not furnish him with money to get to him, and ask'd him if he had no Letter of Credit to any one here and if his Uncle had not given him directions to apply to some of his Friends here for money, he answerd he was not

intended here but to N York directly, but meeting wth. an Opportunity of a Man War bound here he tho^t. it more Safe to come in her, than in a Merchant Ship for w^{ch}. reason he bro^t no Letter of Recommendation but to my Self and that what money he had, he spent by reason of the Man War lying in England so much longer than he expected, upon this I complyd wth. his request to lend him Ten pounds Sterlg he afterwards Desired two pounds more then twenty Shillings more w^{ch}. I consented to, then he desired two pounds more but I refusd [] him only thirteen Pounds Sterling w^{ch}. he promis'd to pay [] Friend Mr. Joseph Haynes of N: York as Soon as he got there but I cannot learn he has yet paid it or will he reply to two or three Letters I have wrote him to request Payment.

I told him that as to Mr. Markhams Letter of recommendation I paid no regard to it for that he came here without a Shilling scarsly in his Pocket in order to go to his Father who was then a Major in one of the Regiments at Halifax and I supplyd him with money to Equip himself to go to his Father with Decency when no one else would and took his Bills on his Father without a penny reward and I was many Months before I could get my money & obliged to interceed with an officer in the Army to prevail on his Father to pay me at last, that I told him he had no right to recommend any one to me that wanted money and what inducd me to Supply Mr Johnson was from the Intimacy and favours I receiv'd from Mr Warren when he was upon this Station and after he was an Admiral, that I could not with Gratitude refuse to lend such a Sum to any one that had any Connection wth. Mr Warrens Family, Abstracted from the Duty every one Owes you for the Services you have done your Country.

The favour I have to request of you Sir is, to []
to pay this Thirteen Pounds Sterlg and the Interest []
to Mr. Joseph Haynes for my acco^t. and that you would
[] Prejudic'd to him for his behaviour to me, than

to admonish him for his Ill.' Conduct and to Excuse the trouble I give you.

I am wth. great Respect

S^r. Y^r. most Obed^t Serv^t.

THO^s. GUNTER

S^R WILL^M. JOHNSON Bart.

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.¹

Albany October the 17th 1757

SIR

This morning Decoigny and La Force who were confined in this Fort made their escape of which I have given notice to the justices at Schenectady by this bearer, offering a reward to any person who shall apprehend and secure them, of Ten pound for each of them, I beg the favour of you to publish the same and send out Parties as you judge best that they may if possible be secured. which will be doing an agreeable Service to my Lord Loudoun as well as to Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

JAMES ABERCROMBY.

P. S. we suspect they will make for Cayuga I leave it to you to secure what papers² you judge most likely, & for that end you have an Order inclosed to the Commanding Officers of the different parts to furnish what parties are required for that Service.

To SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart.

ADDRESSED: On His Majestys Service.

To

Sir William Johnson Bart.

at

Fort Johnson.

¹ In Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

² "Papers" is an apparent error in transcription. The word written is evidently "passes."

JAMES ABERCROMBIE TO FORT COMMANDERS

A. L. S.¹*Albany October the 17th 1757*

GENTLEMEN

It is Major General Abercromby Orders that you furnish what ever parties Sir William Johnson desires of you to go in search of two Persons Viz^t: Decoigny and La Force who escaped this morning out of the Fort,
To the Officers Commanding at Fort Hunter, Canejohary & Herkemars alias German flatts.

JAMES ABERCROMBIE²
Aid de Campe

TO COMMANDANTS AT FORTS HENDRICK AND HERKIMER

Df.³*Fort Johnson 19th: october 1757*

GENTLEMEN

I Received a letter from Major Gen^l. Abercrombie acquainting me that DeQuajne and LaForge his accompis, who were confined some time in Albany Fort, on Suspision of Carrying on a Correspondence with the Enemy Made their Escape the Morning of the 17th: Inst^t: and he desires me to Use all means possible to have them apprehended for which purpose he has sent me an Order,⁴ Coppy of which I here inclose You, desireing You would furnish any parties Neccessary for that End, Imagineing they may Go up that way I send this by Express to put you both on your Guard and hope you will exert your Selves all in your power to have them taken, as it will be of Great Service, and

¹ Original destroyed by fire; inclosed in letter of Abercromby to Johnson of October 17th.

² Son of General James Abercromby. They used different spellings.

³ Destroyed by fire.

⁴ James Abercrombie to Fort Commanders, October 17, 1757, q. v.

redound Much to the Credit of him who is lucky enough to
Secure them

I am Gentlemen

Your Most Humble Servant

P: S: it will be proper To acquaint Justice Fry, and The
Two Justices at the German Flatts with it and let them, know
the Reward,

To the COMMANDING OFFICERS
at Forts Hendrick, & Herkemar

TO CAPTAINS STARMBERGH AND SWART

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 90, by
Johnson's order of October 19th to Captains Starmbergh (Sternberger)
and Swart, at Schoharie, to arrest two Frenchmen. It was destroyed
by fire.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*A. Df.*¹

Fort Johnson 21st October 1757 —

SIR

Mr Croghan & Captn Butler are returned from Oneida. I
send you inclosed such Extracts of their Report as are any way
Material.

You will see by the latter part of it that the Oneidaes &
Tuscaroras earnestly desire a Meeting with me at the German
Flatts, which I propose to give them in four or five Days if I get
the better of a Pleurisy & Violent Stitches I am now troubled
with.

Your favour of the 17th Ins^t. I rec'd and in consequence
thereof have Sent Captⁿ. Thomas Butler to Scohare wth. orders
to the Officers of the Militia there, to make the Strictest enquiry
& Search for De Quayne & his Partner.² I have also sent to

¹ In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Autograph Collection.

² La Force.

the German Flatts and Conajohare letters by Expresses both to the Officers, & Justices to use their utmost endeavours to have them taken up if they go that way.—

As Oghquago on Susquahana is the privatest & as near a road to Cayuga almost as this, I have sent to the Indians there to take them up should they go that way, and bring them to me, & I would pay them 50 Dollars. So that I am in hopes if they travel either of those Roads, they will be Secured.

I am

Sr.

INDORSED: Fort Johnson 21st Octbr 1757
Letter to Genl. Abercrombie
with Mr Croghan's Report.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

<New York, 21 October 1757

DEAR SIR WILLIAM>

Yesterday Lord Loudoun <embarked for Albany> where many we hear have waited for him <impatiently. I> suppose you will soon have an Interview with <his Lordship> which, if it be true that his Lordship is much dis<pleased> with the six Nations, & not altogether satisfied with <the> Management of their Affairs, will not be a verry pleasing one. I have been told that he has expressed so warm a Resentment against those Nations, that if I did not think it would abate before his Lordship proceeded to Action, I should be greatly alarmed with the Apprehensions of an approaching War with those People, more to be dreaded in my opinion than the War we sustain already against five times their Number. Let the Situation of those People be considered, & though they are not so powerful in themselves or their alliances as formerly, yet we should soon-

severely feel the Weight of their Resentment. We have never been at War with them yet, and but till now they have been always out fast Friends. I am still willing to look on the Bulk of them not as our Enemies, & disinclinable to break with us, & though a few of their young Men should by the Artifices of <the French be led> astray, we should use all conciliating <Measures before> we proceed to Extremities. We have already <more business> than we can contend against except with very <great> loss, why then should we add to their number: Were we to ask the French how they would have us act on this Occasion they would tell us, attack them immediately if one of them take up arms against you, and then you will bring about what we would gladly see, the five Nations in general at War with the English, and we are sure in that Case there is not an Indian Nation within reach of You but would follow the Example.

Thus my dear Friend, as you have to contend against Different Sentiments, you have a very nice part to act. I would willingly hope that my Lord will listen dispassionately to the arguments you shall think proper to lay before him, otherwise he will insist on your taking steps that may I fear make a Breach between him and you — to avoid which I know you will from publick spirited Views spare no Pains. On the other Hand there may be some who would rejoice at such an Event, either from a mistaken Notion of things, or Views not altogether so disinterested as I know yours to be. When Prejudices have <taken deep Root, as I look on> the Case to be at present, it requires <great address &> skill to avoid the Effects of them. It is <an advantage> however when we are apprised of them (as I <know you are>) and prepared to receive them with coolness; <in> this Case they loose much of their Force and

often take a very different turn from what might be expected.
We have no News.

I am Dear Sir W^m.

your affectionate &
obed^t. humble Servant

Sir W^m. JOHNSON Bar^t

GW BANYAR

INDORSED: Oct^{br} 21st. 1757

Mr. Banyars letter

FROM JOHN READE

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 90, by a letter of October 26th to Johnson from John Reade about employment as overseer of Johnson's farm. It was destroyed by fire.

FROM WILLIAM DENNY

L. S.

<Duplicate

Philadelphia 10th November 1757

SIR,

I have > your favour's to < acknowledge of the 13th and 25th of September. The Cherokee > Deputies were kindly entertained < here, and dispatched to Winchester under > the care of a proper Guide, who kept them < in good Order; and I have receiv'd a > Letter from Colonel Washington in answer to mine < by them, acquainting me, > that they came there in good Spirits and were sent forward < directly.¹ >

¹ Washington to Governor Denny — Fort Loudoun, Octr. 23d, 1757. Sir: Your favour Inclosing Sir William Johnson's Letter, I had the Honour to receive Yesterday between four & five P. M., at which time the Indians therein spoke of arrived here. About the same hour to day they depart; Escorted by an officer whom I have chargd with the care of conducting them to the first Garrison in Carolina.

I have bought of the bearer, Mr. James Innis, the Horses which conveyed them hither, and which he tells me he was Instructed to sell. All other necessary Expenses arising in their march through this colony, I shall pay in behalf of this Government.

I am sir, with great respect,

Y^r most Obd^t Hb^{le} Serv^t,

The Honble GOV^r. DENNY

GEO. WASHINGTON

Pennsylvania Archives, 3:300-1.

I observe by your last, you have received from the <Lords of Trade, the> proposals made by the Proprietaries to have the Delaware Claims <adjusted by> you in the presence and with the Assistanc of the Six Nations.

This I am persuaded would have been the only proper Channel <for the> Settlement of these Differences, and under such Conduct, they might have <been> amicably and expeditiously determined to the great advantage of His Majesty's Indian Interest; but as matters are now likely to be managed, no one can say what will be the final issue. It appears beyond a doubt to me, that the pretensions set up by these Delawares, in prejudice to Titles under Six Nation Deeds, must create dissensions among them. This Mr. Croghan will do me and the Council the Justice to own was judged a matter, that rendered it very improper these Claims should undergo a publick Examination; as the Proprietaries, besides their Delaware grants, were under a necessity of producing the Evidences of the Delawares being a tributary Nation, and to shew that the Six Nations had expressly enjoined the Proprietaries not to purchase from them, and had likewise given positive Orders to the very Delawares not to presume to sell Lands. Prudence therefore Dictated other measures, but Teedyuscung and his Abettors in the Assembly and among the Quakers, paid not the least regard to Consequences but he was urged to Treat the Six Nations and their Title in a very harsh and Arbitrary Manner; and there is reason to think from the relation I am going to give of what has passed since the Treaty that these advisers will not relax their Influence, nor Teedyuscung alter <his measures. At the close of the Treaty Teddyuscung expressed to me an Inclination to come to Philadelphia, but was persuaded off it, and went away with the other Indians. In about Three Weeks to my surprize he came here, and said, that in their return beyond Wiomink, he> unexpectedly met two <Messenger's from the Ohio sent by

Delaware George > and some other Friendly Indians <to assure him they approved of his > Proceedings. He thought this News of so <much Consequence as to come and acq>uaint this Government with it, having first sent <one of his Sons with the Peace> Belt to Delaware George who was waiting at Wenango <the return of the> Messengers. Whether this was really the cause of his Return, <or he was afraid> of going on, least his haughty behaviour should have drawn upon <him the Dis>pleasure of the other Indians, or whether he was recalled by the Quakers <to ans>wer some purpose of theirs I cant tell. But he behaved rudely to me as the <inc>losed Minute will shew, spoke disrespectfully of Mr Croghan and demanded <an> immediate publication of the Treaty and threatened he would go to England. This Treaty was accordingly published just as it is taken in Mr Croghan's Minutes.¹ The Council Minutes which shew the real Conduct of the Quakers, are printing separately and will be finished next Week. I shall send you some of the Printed Copies before Publication.

Teedyuscung did not think proper after leaving this City to go to Diahogo but went and resided at Bethlehem. Whilst he remained there Parties of Indians made Incursions on the Fronteers in that Neighbourhood, and people did not scruple to say there were amongst them some of the Delawares and even of those who were present at the Treaty. He was made acquainted with these Murders & the Peoples suspicions and thereupon he wrote to me desiring I woud send him a War Belt for his Warriors, and he would engage them to go against these Parties, who, he said, were French and their Indians, and insisted on the Governments fixing immediately what Prices the would give for Scalps and Prisoners. The Letter was immediately laid before the Assembly, and they not inclining to give rewards for Scalps in the Circumstances, these Indians <are of having in their Possession many Scalps and Prisoner's taken on our Fronteers. Teedyuscung came down a Second Time, and said he had thought better of this proposal of having the War Belt put into

¹ See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:280-321.

the Hands of his > Warriors, and believed it <would be better to postpone it till the Spring,> when it would be seen by how many the <Peace was approved, and in what dis>position the Indians were on the Ohio tow<ards their Brethren the> English. I made him no other answer than it <was agreeable to me to let it> alone.

One thing I should have mentioned in my <former Letter, that is> of the last Consequence, and shall now particularly re<late it, namely,> Teedyuscung in the private Conference held with him by Mr Crog<han at> my Instance in order to get him to explain an obscure Speech he made me in public produced a Paper purporting to be a Draught of the <Lands> he requested might be granted to them for their Habitation. It is here inclosed and contains above two Million of Acres. Perhaps I may be wrong in my Notion of it but if I am, Mr. Croghan, to whom a Copy of this Draught shoud have been given to be inserted in his Minutes, will set me right. According to the Explanation made to me of it at the Time, the Courses are as follows — It begins a little below Shamokin, leaving that Fort and a small Quantity of Land without, then by the Boundary line of the purchase of 1749 to the mouth of Lehighwachsen, on Delaware — then by the River Delaware to Cushitunck, or Station Point — then in a Straight line from Cushitunck to Burnest's Hills where they Cross Sasquahanna, about Ten or fifteen Miles below Diahogo, then all along burnets Hills to the Big Island in the West branch, then by the West Branch to its Mouth, and then a little below the Mouth to the place of Beginning about a Mile South of Shamokin. This you will find to contain above two Millions, and I have reason from what Mr Croghan told me to think it was concerted between Teedyuscung and the Speaker. If such a Quantity of Land in the very Centre of the Province, lying so near Jersey and New York, be put into the possession of <the Indians with a grant that it shall never be alienated, neither by them nor the Proprietaries, you must be sensible an entire stop will be put to the Settlement of that part

of the Province which > lies to the West and North <of it — And when you take into Consideration> the Release proposed by the Propri<etaries to be made to the Six Nations of all> that part of the Albany purchase which <lies West of the Allegheny Hills> you must be convinced that such a Gore as this <makes > to Indians will if they turn against us effect<ually cut off our Communicat>ion with the Country of the Six Nations by the way <of Sasquahannah> which is a very important Point. besides puting a stop <to all further> Cultivation of Lands.

The Assembly having this Draught of <Land> before them desired by a Message to know if I had powers to convey to <the> Indians the Lands they desired at the late Treaty, for their Habitation, and <if I> had they woud proceed to ratify the grant by Act of Assembly to which I gave such an Answer as it deserved, of both which Copies are inclosed.

Another Application was likewise made by the Assembly, earnestly requesting me to proceed, according to what was promised the Indians at the Treaty, immediately to build for them a small Fort and some Houses at Wioming; and three Gentlemen, with a Detachment of One hundred and fifty Men, are gone to superintend these Works and have taken with them Tools and other necessaries. I hope this will strengthen his Majesty's Interest with the Indians, but it may prove otherwise, for the French, having their attention drawn to that part of the Country may think proper to take possession of some place upon the Susquahannah, and fortify it against the Indians as well as his Majesty's Subjects.

You will see by some Examinations sent Lord Loudoun, that a strong Fort is built at Wenango this Year, and that there is a Detachment of the Regiment of Marines in Garrison there under the Command <of an Officer, named Chauvignerie, and that the Fort is called Machault.

It> gives me a great deal of satis<faction that you are pleased to approve> of my Conduct at the late Treaty, <I shall always be attentive to follow> your advice in all Indian

Affairs, that <you shall think proper to> recommend to my care in this Province.

I have desired Lord Loudoun's Opinion with regard <to giving the> Hatchet to these Delaware Indians in the Spring; and I should <be glad to> have your's on that important subject. As I soon expect to hear of the Return of the Cherokees on the Fronteers of this Province, I should like <wise> be glad to know how I am to conduct myself, and what answer to give them.

I am Sir

your most obedient

and most humble Servant

WILLIAM DENNY

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

INDORSED: <Gov^r. Dennys letter
10> Nov^r. (Copy) with
<draught> of Land &
Mr. Peters's Letter

FROM PHILIP TOWNSEND

A. L. S.

Herkymers ffort Nov^r 11th 1757

SIR

This Moment two Indians of the Onoyadas brought me the Belt of Wampum I now send you wth Intelligence that Seven Indians had arrived there wth an Acc^t of a body of ffrench Consisting of Eight hundred were on their March to Skinectady first & then to March back and take all these Settlements and that they were so near as to be here to Morrow Morning

I am

S^r

Your Most Obed^t

Hum^{ble} Serv^t

PHIL^p: TOWNSEND Cap^m In
22^d Reg^t

FROM PHILIP TOWNSEND

A. L. S.

Herkimers ffort Nov^r 13th 1757

SR

I intended writing to you yes<terday> by y^e Express who left this About one o' the Clock ¹ y^e Afternoon but he went away without Calling on me to Inform that y^e whole Great fflatts are destroyed. Many ¹ y^e Inhabitans Men Women & Children Killed or Missing Three or four came here this day & Numbers ¹ yesterday morn for refuge. Their Consternation ¹ to be Express'd & the more as we have this morn; information that the Enemy are intrenched & threaten farther Mischief no attempt has been made here but from y^e Numbers of ffrench & Indians said to be there they Might possibly intend it this I thought My Duty to inform you as y^e poor people here depend on you Only for relief

I am

Sr

Y^r Most Obed^t

Sert

PHILI^p: TOWNSEND Cap^{tn} 22^d

ffoot

I am Just now informed the Number of the Enemy Am^{ts} to 800 & that they are determined on a fight before they disperse

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 1:520-22, is printed a letter from George Croghan on warning given by the Oneida Indians to the inhabitants of German Flats before the attack upon the settlement.

¹ Manuscript mutilated previous to the fire.

J. ADAIR TO GEORGE CROGHAN

A. L. S.

[Albany, Nov^r. 21, 1757¹]D^R. SIR

I received yours [] to hear that the Complaint [] Williams side begins to point [] its the luckiest thing cou'd happen as M^r. Henderson is before this wth. him, I need not give my opinion [] will take proper care of him. for no doubt he will doe every thing to bring it to a head & not open it till the matter is properly collected. I this day set out for York, other wise I should certainly have taken a ride up to see him as there is noe body I wish better & at this time his confinement is a publick loss. My Comp^{ts}. to him & am

Sir your most humble ser^t.

J. ADAIR

ADDRESSED: To

Cap^t. Croghan
at Sir William
Johnsons

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

Df²Fort Johnson 5th. Dec^{br}. 1757

DEAR SIR

I now for the first time these Six Weeks take up my Pen, to acknowledge in the most grateful manner the Honour done me, in the verry kind mention, & tender Notice taken of me in y^r. letter to M^r. Croghan of the 2^d. Inst. I assure you Sir My Disorder did not give me more pain, then the Deprivation, of the Honour of waiting on his Lordship, and You when lately

¹ The date is supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

² Destroyed by fire.

together. As my Pain is pritty much abated, tho seeminly settled in my Side, I propose as Soon as I am able to do my Self the Honour of waiting on you & Stay some time in Albany to get rid of it, if possible.

I inclose You Coppy of Mr. Croghans report to Me on his return from the German Flatts where I Sent him, & Some more of the Indⁿ. officers &c^a. on the late acc^t. I had from Cap^t. Townsend of the Enemys approach. I at the Same time ordered all the Militia of this part of the Country to march to Conajohare, & Send to Cap^t. Townsend for further Intelligence. they waited there 5 days, so returned, finding by him & their Scouts no Signs of an Enemy.

Agreable to y^r. desire I have forwarded Mr. Wendall to the Carrying place, & Oneida &c^a. as you will See by the Instructions I gave Him & Montour.—w^{ch}. I also inclose As Soon as the Conajohare Scouts return from the Carrying place & thereabouts, I will write you if any thing extraordinary.

The Suffering of the Poor People of the German Flatts together with my Illness, (which made the Militia &c^a. more Slack in their Duty than they used to be,) had Struck such a Pannick in the remainder of the Inhabitants of this River Stoneraby, & Cherry Valley, that they before I knew it Sent away all their Effects, or moveables, and were ready to follow, if I had not by Example, perswasion & threats prevented them Stirring untill I wrote you, & had an answer whether you would please to Cover, or protect their Settlements soon. they are realy Sr. too weak to Stand against any Body of the Enemy. and as to the garrisons along the River they are, or can be little or no protection to them, as the Enemy can burn & distroy them & what they have before the Face of the garrison, as they did lately at the German Flatts. w^h discourages the People greatly. I hope Sr. you^l pardon my freedom, as the poor People have no Body Else they dare apply to, and My motive nothing but the Saveing this part of the Country, & so many of his Majestys Subjects, w^h. I flatter my Self you have equally at Heart.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Df. S.*¹*Fort Johnson 8th. Dec^{br} 1757*S^R.

last night the three Indians who were Sent to the great Carrying place returned, and Say they have faithfully, Scoured the Woods all along to the Carrying place, and there all round for Some Miles, but could discover no Signs of an Enemy. Since the last Party destroyed the Flatts passed that way they found where that Party lay every night, they were four Days getting to the Carrying place by their Encampments, w^h. agrees with the Oneidaes Acc^t., the reason of it was, their officer was wounded, and the Indians were continually Drunk haveing got a Considerable quantity of Rum at the German Flatts.

The Oneidaes Say, that the French Indians wth. whom they spoke, assured them that the French had Snow Shoes, provisions, Indⁿ. Sleds &c^a. all lying ready at a post they have on the Bank of Lake Ontario. ready to make another attempt about New Year, if the Season favoured their design. all the Indians who spoke with the French, & their Indians agree in this Acc^t.— and further tell Me that Both French & Indians renewed their request with a Belt of Wampum, y^t. they meaning y^e Oneidaes & Mohawks would keep out of their way at their Peril.

this has got among the People of the Country, and frightened them so, that they talk of moveing from hence, as Soon as there is a good Snow. I have forbid them moveing at their Perils, telling them it is against the Law of y^e Province but I doubt it will not prevent them, unless a Considerable Number of Troops, and Good Experienced Woods Men are Sent up to Cover the Country. This I think Sir my Duty to acquaint you of, as I am Sensible the consequence of this part of y^e Countrys breaking up, would be productive of more Evils, than many are aware of, on Severall Acc^{ts}. I must beg leave to acquaint you, that on Captⁿ.

¹ Destroyed by fire.

Christies¹ Billeting some Men last year at my House at Albany, I Spoke to Lord Loudoun about it, who was pleased to give positive Orders to Captⁿ. Christie to take them away, and Billet no more there for the future. Notwithstanding which, I fear there are Some Men Billeted there now, and in the best Room I have, which I ordered Mrs. Miller Some time ago to have cleaned out, and put in order again I went down. besides I have always a good many Stores in that House which may not be Safe with Soldiers in it, there being but an old Woman to take care of them.

pardon my troubleing you with so trifleing an affair, and give me leave to assure you, I am

with the greatest Esteem

Sr.

Yr. Most &c^a.

W^m. JOHNSON

TO MAJOR GENR^L. ABERCROMBIE

TO LORD LOUDOUN

Df. S²

Fort Johnson 10. Dec^r. 1757.

Copy

MY LORD

I was greatly mortified at my not being able to wait on your Lordship while at Albany but my Disorder was so severe for 7 Weeks that I could not turn in my Bed. I am far from being able to go abroad, the Pain still continuing in my Side tho not so severe.

I have wrote Maj^r. Gen. Abercrombie twice within these few Days, and have given him all the Intelligence I could learn, as well as the deplorable State of this Part of the Country, (which is by several corroborating Acco^{ts};) threatened to be Laid waste by the Enemy as far as Schenectady, which I doubt not will be

¹ Captain Gabriel Christie, of the 48th regiment.

² Destroyed by fire.

attempted very soon, unless a Sufficient Number of Troops, and good Experienced Rangers are posted along the River for the Protection of it.

I should be glad your Lordship would please to let me know, whither I am to look upon Mr. Wraxall as Secr^y. of Indⁿ Affairs any longer; if not I beg Leave to assure your Lordship that I shall be very much put to, and cannot get any so well qualified for that Office, he having had the Indⁿ Records in his Keeping¹ several years, read them thro, and is very well acquainted with their Customs, Forms &c^a. besides he has a peculiar Turn that way, which is a great advantage. Indeed I know not where I could find a Man in the least fit for that Office. So hope y^r Lordship will please to consider of it, being sensible that his holding two Commissions (especially at this Time) would not answer, and knowing his Constitution not equal to the Fatigues of a military Life, I often advised him to quit the Army, which he seemed very willing to provided he had y^r Lordships Leave to sell out.

If I did not think he could do His Majesty more Service as Secretary of Indⁿ. Affairs, than as a military Man, I would by no means offer to say so much to your Lordship about it so hope you will excuse me

I have the Honour to be
My Lord
Your Lordships
&c^a.

W^m JOHNSON

P S. as your Lordship let me know some time ago that the Lords of Trade had Consented to Mr. Croghan's appointment I should be glad to know whether y^r Lordship approves of his having a Commission, & whether from y^r. Lordship, or myself.

The Right Hon^{ble}.

The EARL OF LOUDOUN

¹ See *An Abridgment of the Indian Affairs* by Peter Wraxall, edited by Charles Howard McIlwain, p. LXXXVI-CXVIII.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 91, by Johnson's letter of December 14th to Major General Abercromby about premature return of Mohawks, recent letters and uneasiness of the settlers. It was destroyed by fire.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Df. S.*¹*Fort Johnson 19th. Dec^{br}. 1757 —*

SIR

Mr. Wendall, & Montour arrived here last Night from Oneida, whose Report ² I here enclose. I believe Mr. Wendall has discharged his Duty verry well, notwithstanding what the Mohawks who left him Said.

I understand by Mr. Wendall that you spoke to him about raising a Company of Woods men, or Rangers for the Service of this part of the Country if they could be had here. I am of Opinion He could raise a Company of as good Men for that Service along this River, as any in America, provided the pay is Sufficient & I am Sure Such are much wanted here. As the Militia (some of whom are verry poor) pay the few Scouts they keep out Six shillings p Day w^h. is a great Hardship, & heavy Tax on them.—

I am

Dr. Sir

Y^{rs}.W^m. JOHNSON

P S: if the French are so Short of provisions as I hear they are, I cant help thinking they will make a desperate push some where before it is long by the Ind^s. Intelligence it will be Fort Edward & this River at y^e same time.

MAJOR GENERAL ABERCROMBIE

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² Not found.

FROM LORD LOUDOUN

L. S.¹*New York 25^t: December 1757*

SIR

I had the favor of yours of the 10^t, and am very sorry to find, that you are recovering so Slowly from your late Indisposition.

Your Illness has been the reason, of my not having writ you a great deal on Our Indian Affairs, which appear at present to be on a very precarious footing; I am afraid, with all the Endeavors we are able to make, the main of the Six Nations, will act a part very different from their Treaties Subsisting between Us; the Accounts from many places say so, and their behavior, when Burnets field was attacked, confirms those reports; but I forbear entering deeper into that affair, till you are able to enter again on business; and as soon as you are, I desire to hear from you, and to have Your real Sentiments, on what may be expected the ensueing Campaign; and what Measures are necessary for to be taken with them; and whether you think it will be possible to bring any part, and how many of them, to Act with Us in the Field; and in what Shape that can be done.

As I found, the Campaign before last, great Use from the domiciliated Indians, that served under Captain Jacobs, till they were detached by Daniel, and by his means have never Acted with Us since, except that he came out with the other Indians for a little while, I have thought of raising a body of those domiciliated Indians from the Low Country; they have been extremely Ill used by the French, which I hope will Spirit them to revenge; But I must insist that you will, as far as lies in Your Power, prevent any of the Indians from interfering in this, or using any means, either to prevent their Joining, or debauching them from Us after they are got.

Your knowledge of Mankind, as well as of Indian Affairs, must Shew You that, till we can be much better assured of the

¹ Destroyed by fire.

friendship of the Six Nations, than we are at present, that it is not our business, to make any Addition to that Strength, but rather to endeavor, to cultivate the friendship of those People as far as We can, and to keep these Indians, who are intermixed with the white People, still domiciliated and connected with the white People, rather than by Joining them to the Indians, to increase their Strength, and diminish that of the white People.

It is for this reason, that I have chose to Negotiate with these People myself, because I saw, that if I had sent to You to do it, in the first place, Your health at present would not allow you to enter into it; but the material one was, I saw that the real Indians would immediately have been Jealous, if You had Negotiated with them, separate from them, and bad Consequences would have ensued; they would have endeavor'd to have drawn them off, and got them to Join in their Plans, wherever they might happen to be; and wherever they happen to be against Us, would be raising up an Enemy in Our bosom, nay in the Heart of Our Country, which is the most dangerous of all Enemies, and can do the most mischief.

Therefore, as You know I am Order'd to look into, and direct You in Indian Affairs, dont let it enter into Your mind, that by this, I mean to interfere in the Management of Indian Affairs, by taking it into my own hands, or by turning it into any other Channel than thro' You, for it is the farthest from my thoughts; for in the first place, there is no Man in America, I wish to have the Management of them but yourself, and as to me, I am very far from wishing to encrease my business, for I have more in my other departments to do, than is fitt for any one Man to Execute, as business ought to be done.

What occurs to me in the present Situation, is, that as the Indians, who I have great reason to believe cannot be brought to Join Us, so as to Act heartily with Us; I put it Gently, for from all Quarters Informations come, that they will Act against Us; and that is confirmed by Your Letter, acquainting me of the danger of the Mohawk River; for if the Six Nations were for

Us, the French dared not touch it, which is an indisputable fact, they are too near them, and too near to receive support from Us, on the Intelligence they can give Us if they will, for the French to venture to enter their Country without their Consent, or to be able to do it without our having timely notice, if they were disposed to give it.

Therefore in this Situation, I thought it right, that you should be able to say to the Indians, those are people totally disjoined from you, who live among the white People, have adopted their Customs, and they are now become one People, and live in the same manner; and as such, Cooperate together and go to War together, as they have now one common Interest.

That as for yourself, from Your long residence among them Your Interest with them, the King their Father has appointed You to manage his affairs with them, and that if they will continue to keep their Treaties with him, & give their brethren that Assistance they stand in need of, be it what it will; that as for those people, that are now become a part of the white people, they stand in need of no assistance from You, and therefore You leave them, to follow the custom they have adopted among their brethren, with whom they live as brothers ought. I think this is the proper footing to put it on, and is no more than You and I playing to one another's bands,¹ for the common Interest of the whole.

There is one very material thing I must recommend to you, which is to endeavor, to get some of your Indians who have parts and may be depended on, to get Us Intelligence of the Enemy; there are numbers of them constantly among the French, and I should think some of them might be bought off, to get Us good Intelligence, both of what they are doing at Montreal & Tien-deroga, and that could have so good and frequent Intelligence among them, that they could make no movement, but what we should have early & certain accounts of, nor that they could not make any preparations, but what we should know; I do beg, that

¹ In the copy, "bands"; an evident misreading of "hands."

you will directly sett about this, and I will Pay any Man who undertakes this, according to the Service he does, and will not be Sparing on the occasion if he deserves it.

As to the Security of the Mohawk River, I have writ to M. G. Abercromby on that Subject, and he will take all possible care of it.

As to Captain Wraxall, I have in no Shape interfered, with his Executing his Offices as Secretary to Indian Affairs; You know he remained here all last Winter, absent from the Execution of that Office; as soon as the Campaign begun to Approach, he left You and returned here, with a plan of remaining for the Winter; and as I found by the leave You had given him, that You did not want him at present, I thought it but reasonable, he should Assist in Compleating his Company, which wanted a great many Men; and the whole difference that could be to him, was, whether he was to live in one Town in the low Country during the Winter, or in another, which we, as Soldiers, do not consider as a point of any great Consequence; and were I to go into that way of thinking, that every officer who has a wife, must live where she chuses, we should have a strong Army presently, and nerve to do duty.— As to allowing him to Sell, it is so contrary to the Kings Inclinations, that it is not fit for me to agree to it; if by his Friends in England, he can bring that about, I have no Objection to it.

As to Mr. Croghan, I had the Liberty to appoint him, as I informed You from the Hook, and did understand You had appointed him as your Assistant; as to the matter of the Commission, I thought it of no great Consequence, as he acts only as Your deputy.

Wishing you the Compliments of the Season, and a perfect recovery, I am, with great Esteem, Sir,

Your Most Obedient Humble Servant.

LOUDOUN

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^t.

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.¹*Albany 27th December 1757*

SIR.

A Deputation from the Inhabitants of Schory, came to me this morning, representing that they had certain Intelligence, that a party of the Enemy were in motion, from Poroghquago² in order to break up their settlements, and further that they would be there on Sunday next to confirm which the Onoghquaga Indians, and³ sent the Schohang⁴ Indians, a belt of Wompum

After what we have seen, we must pay some regard to such advice, and quiet the minds of the Settlers, I shall order two Companys to march Early on Thursday morning, so as to be at Schohang⁴ by noon Friday. In this Scattered Settlement, it is necessary for the good of the whole, that one Company of the Troops remain constantly together, for that End you will be pleased to send one of your Indian officers over with the Bearer of his⁵ letter to Schohang⁴, to manage the Indians there, and to put part of the Troops into the Fort or Blockhouses you lately built there.

You write give this officer, such instructions as you shall judge proper, particularly to remain there, while the Troops continue, and further I submitt it to you, if it would not be necessary that he should remain some time longer, in order to govern the Indians in and about Schohang.⁴

This Deputation have agreed in the name of the rest of the Inhabitants, to throw up a logged fence or whatever, also shall be judged proper by the officers that are sent there for their common defence which may soon be accomplished and the troops then

¹ In Newberry Library, Chicago, Ill.

² Onoghquago, Oquaga.

³ "Had"?

⁴ Schoharie.

⁵ Should be "this."

with drawn but as they seem to imagine that their Indians would not consent, to their taking possession of the Castle because it was built for the Indians, it makes it necessary that that matter should be explained, that the inhabitants may at all times have free access to this Fort — I only mention this to prevent any sort of jealousies, between the people and the Indians, for we will never admit that they have any exclusive privilege to any fort — on the Contrary both the Troops and Inhabitants must have the preference I represented to my Lord Loudoun the situation of the Mohawks River, and by y^e post that arrived on Sunday, his Lordship has consented to send a party of Rangers to Stones Arabia, about which I shall this day give orders and direct the officer who goes from Schenectady to call for instructions from you, with regard to his Conduct in posting his party and by whom I shall write to you more fully.

Justice Sayer of Schohang¹ carries this letter first home, and is to send a carefull person to your house with it, and whatever other intelligence he may be able to pick up — So that I will detain him no longer by I am Sir

Your most Obedient &
most Humble serv^t

JAMES ABERCROMBY

TO SIR W^m. JOHNSON

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Df. S.*²

*Fort Johnson 29th. Dec^r. 1757.*³

DEAR SIR

Here are two Seneca Ind^s. who were sent by the Sachems of that Nation to beg they might be allowed a Smith as usual to

¹ Schoharie.

² Destroyed by fire.

³An autograph letter signed from Johnson to Abercromby, dated December 28, 1757, Fort Johnson, was sold at Anderson's auction October 16, 1906. A copy could not be obtained.

mend their working Utensils Arms &^{ca}. and a couple of Traders to exchange Cloathing &^{ca}. for their Skins and Furs of which they have a considerable Quantity as they say none of their young Men have been to War for some time. As they are very pressing to have such Men sent to their Nation and promise they will take great Care of them, I should be glad to have your Opinion thereon, they propose waiting untill I give them an answer.

I find by these Senecas, that the Governm^t. of Pennsylvania or some Branch of their Legislature have taken upon them to send two Belts of Invitation at different times and that lately to the Senecas and Cayougas, earnestly desiring they would meet them early next Spring at Wayoming or Shamokin on Susquehanna, with as many of their Warriors as they could possibly prevail upon, at the same time tells the Senecas and Cayougas, that they will not call the Onondagas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Mohawks &^{ca}. as they look upon them to be under my Direction.

If Lord Loudoun (to whom I beg you will be pleased to mention this in your next:) does not interpose his Authority and those People (whom I suppose to be chiefly Quakers:) are suffered to take such Liberties, and make such Divisions amongst the Indians, it will be very prejudicial to His Majestys Indian Interest, and entirely interfere with my Managment, which, altho I am so unhappy, as not to have it approved of by some at present, may at Length (:I flatter myself:) appear to have been the most prudent that could have been made Use of, or followed, as Affairs are circumstanced.

You will see by a Paragraph of Mr. Peters Letter to Mr. Croghan, (:which I herewith send you:) that the Quakers are now carrying on a considerable Trade at Shamokin or Wiyoming, and detirmined to carry on a very great one next spring. At these places the Enemy, and Enemy Indians (:who dont live far from thence:) will no doubt be supplied with every thing they want; the Indians can purchase Goods there for the French at Ohio, who I am told are often in Want. This I think should

be prevented by all Means, and no Trade suffered to be carried on for the future with any Indians (:except in the Settlements:) without an Intendant to inspect, and the Trade under proper Regulations; For those who formerly and now carry on a Clandestine Trade take all advantages of the Indians, which alone is sufficient to make them our Enemies, whereas good Usage and fair Dealing would be the greatest Means of extending our Trade and Alliance, which I think are Objects worthy of Consideration; and I heartily wish His Lordships time would allow him to turn his Thoughts a little on those Matters, as it would be of great Service, were it in my Power to stop such pernicious proceedings, I should by no means give His Lords^p. or you any Trouble ab^t. them.

I am &^{ca}.

W^m. JOHNSON

MAJOR GEN. ABERCROMBIE

WILLIAM BAKER'S ACCOUNT

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 91-92. by four papers which were destroyed: William Baker's account current with Johnson, dated London, December 31st; William Printup's bill, undated, against the province of Pennsylvania for services as interpreter at the treaty with Delawares and Shawanese; memorandum of packs of skins, undated; and a fragment of a speech of Pontiac, the Ottawa chief, at Fort Duquesne, reporting efforts of George Craane (Croghan) to influence the Indians by a false story of the fall of Quebec, reminding of promise to the Indians of advantage from the French alliance and describing his own superiority to evil suggestions; in French and undated.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

Df. S.

Fort Johnson, 14 Jan^y. 1757¹ [8]

DEAR SIR

This Day I was fav<oured with yours of> the 9th Curr^t. I am extreamly obliged to you <for your> very kind & friendly

¹The correct date is given in the indorsement.

Disposition towards me, I wish <I may> have it in my Power to show you how desirous I am of meriting it.

I am sorry to give you so much Trouble abt. my Commission, but to prevent any Dispute or Uneasiness arising hereafter abt. it I beg the Favour of your mentioning it to Lord Loudoun, that I may know his Opinion even as to Rank.

I cant imagine the Salary mentioned in the Commission could be extended as pay for both Commys. as Mr. Atkin's Salary for being Agent and Superintendent only is equal to mine, besides I wrote the Lords of Trade before the Commission was granted, that I could not give up my own Business & take upon me the Management of Indⁿ Affairs under £1000 Sterl. p Annum without being a Sufferer; However the Commission was issued before the Receipt of my Letter.

The Sencas being impatient, set out for their own Country this Morning before I had the Pleasure of yours. I sent them away well satisfied, by telling them they should have a smith &^{ca}. sent them next spring, before that time I shall be able to judge, whether they deserve that Indulgence.

There is a general Meeting of the 6 Nations their Allies and Dependants to take Place soon at Onondaga, where it is expected, Matters of much Importance will be discussed and settled. As I am invited I propose attending said Council, if His Lordship or <you have no objections to it. I flatter myself my Presence will not only be agreeable, but of considerable Service there at this Time,> as I may thereby <have it in my Power to clear up> (as far as I can) any Reflections <they> may cast &^{ca}. I am in hopes this Meeting will be in abt. a fortnight or three Weeks, if so, I shall be able to form a Judgment of their Intentions before the Opening of next Campaign.

I am heartily sorry to be the Bearer (I may say) of bad News, but as an unhappy Affair between the Soldiers of Fort Hunter Garrison & some of the Mohawks happened the Day before Yesterday wherein several of the Latter were wounded & some

dangerously. I am under a Necessity of laying their Complaint and Request before you in their own words.

I have settled some Differences which happened between the garrison and them before but this is of so high a Nature, that it is not in my Power to reconcile it unless the whole Garrison be withdrawn, and that very soon. I can assure you Sir that in the Meeting two of their Chief Men (with Tears in their Eyes, which is not very common) declared they were afraid that as soon as the Relations of those wounded and the Rest of their People returned from their hunting (whom they dayly expected) and got a little Liquor, it would not be in their Power, to prevent their Attempting to have Satisfaction. Wherefore they most earnestly entreat you to remove this Garrison, and if any more Troops be sent there, that they may be such People as are acquainted with them and their Customs; then they can live in Peace and Friendship with them.

It is very unlucky at this time, when a Meeting of all the Nations is soon expected, whereat I have great hopes <Matters may be brought to an Issue than was> expected. There <is nothing would give the French more> Pleasure, than a Difference <between us and the> Mohawks at present, wherefore I <think it should> be prevented at any Rate, for many Reasons <besides> the above. I doubt not but this Affair has reached Albany before now, and in another Light, but <this> I believe will all appear to be undubitably Fact which the Ind^{ns}. have said

I am with the greatest Esteem

Dear Sir &^{ca}.

W^m. JOHNSON

TO MAJOR GEN ABERCROMBIE

P. S. I hope Sir you will please to let me hear from you as Soon as possible about the garrison, as I cant say much to them, untill I hear from you on that Head.

INDORSED: My letter to Major
Gen^l. Abercrombie
Jan^y. 14th 1758

FROM THOMAS OSBORNE

A. L. S.¹*Saturday Morn ye 14th.*

DR. SIR

I return'd from Schenectade Last night, but on my journey there was followed or rather persued by three Indians who I believe only for two Dutch men and y^e swiftness of my Slead Horses that I might have suffer'd as I was unarmed, likewise one of the men who I sent to Schenectada returning was mett by two Indians one of which fired a Pistole at him I was necessitated to inform Colo Rollo² of it and to ask his advice I fancy I shall be relieved which may very possibly tend much to the making up of a dispute which I fear is out of my power as they have declared ware against the Soldiers

& I am your most humble & obe.

THOS OSBORNE³INDORSED: Jan^{ry} 14th. 1758INDIAN AND QUAKER INTELLIGENCE⁴*Fort Johnson 29th. of Janu^r. 1758.*

The following piece of Intelligence was brought here by two young Cayouga Indians and delivered to the Sachems of that, and other Nations then at a Meeting with Sir William Johnson.

That a small party of Seneca Warriors, who had been to War against a Nation called Tekaghseech on the head of Savannah River, and brought with them three Scalps, stoped at Fort

¹ Original destroyed by fire.

² Lord Andrew Rollo, lieutenant colonel of the 22d regiment.

³ Captain Thomas Osborne of the 46th regiment.

⁴ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.49. London, England. This intelligence is in a letter of Johnson to Abercromby; sent by Abercromby to the Earl of Loudoun, and by Loudoun to Pitt, inclosed in a letter of February 14, 1758. See *Correspondence of William Pitt*, ed. Gertrude Selwyn Kimball, 1:189-90.

Duquesne on their return, and while there the following affair happen'd.

A Party of Tweghtwees arrived at Fort DuQuesne, and after Saluting the Commanding Officer ask'd him where they shou'd Encamp. He directed them out of the Fort to an Indian Encampment, Then the chief man ask'd for Provisions, but the Commanding officer told him he could not have any he then askd for a dram of Liquor for his Party, which he was likewise denied, upon which he march'd with his party to the Encampment he was directed to, and after the Fires was Kindled, he made a Speech to his Party, desiring them to dress and paint themselves as became Warriors. They being ready, he began the War dance round the Fires, and was followed by every one of the Party, this done, he desired them to take up their Bows and Arrows and follow him, and then headed his party singing the War song and march'd with them towards the Fort, and at the same time desired them to kill any Creature that Came in their way, which they obeyed, and having done some Mischief and killed some Cattle &ca. the Commanding Officer Ordered the Garrison under Arms, and after calling for the Indians told them they had always behaved in such a Manner, but he would bear it no Longer, and accordingly gave orders to Fire upon them, all of whom were killed except Four who made their Escape.

As soon as those Senecas arrived at their Town, they acquainted the Sachems of the affair, who immediately Acquainted the Six Nations therewith, in order that they might be on their Guard, for it was expected that they would have a Message soon from their Bretheren the Twightwees, to assist them, against the French on Account of that Treatment.

Fort Johnson 29th. of Janu^r. 1758

The following Speech was sent by the Quakers of Pensilvania to the Six Nations.—

An Invitation came late in the fall from the Quakers of Pensilvania to the Six Nations desiring they would Meet them early in the Spring at Lancaster, and at the same time acquainted them, that by the Invitation was only meant, one or two Sachems of each Nation, As the design of the Meeting was by no means to Promote or Transact any Warlike Business.

That they were the descendants of the first Onas* and determin'd to have no hand in the present War, but to keep up to the Treaties of Peace their Forefathers entered into with us.

Bretheren

Many of the People of this Province have been Killed this War. Yet We have never Looked up, nor never intended to take up a Hatchet to revenge the Blood, that has been Spilt, nor do we charge the Six Nations with; therefore we must earnestly desire the Six Nations to send deputies to speak with Us, and renew the Treaties of Peace so long subsisting between Us.

A Belt.

Bretheren

The present War between the English and French does not concern Us, it was enterd into beyond the Great Lake by the two Great Kings of England, and France, we have nothing to do with it, nor will we concern ourselves about it, we are resolved to pursue the Rules our Ancestors laid down to us.

Bretheren

We know the Six Nations were always a Warlike People, and we have considered their present Situation as they Sitt between two contending Powers, no doubt very bare of every necessary; we want therefore to talk with you and know Your Resolutions;

* Meaning Mr Penn, the 1st. Governor or, Proprietor of Pensilvania.

If you incline to carry on a War against any Nation, we have every thing fitt to Kill Men with in Plenty, such as Guns, Swords, Hatchets, Powder Lead, Cloathing and Provisions, which we are ready to furnish You with. We know if once You begin a War, it will last till You conquer, or are conquer'd. If You shou'd determine to strike the English, You must Kill the Soldiers* only, and not us, for We have no hand in the War, nor will we concern ourselves in it, but supply You with every thing in Plenty, as we have enough, & if you shou'd determine to strike the French, We will likewise furnish You plentifully with every thing for that purpose.

This Bretheren is our Resolution which we now acquaint You with, and for that Purpose call You here to consult with, and settle these Matters, as we expect no more blood will be spilt in this Province, but if the War should continue, and You engage in it, You may kill Men enough in other Parts of the Country without coming here.

So delivered the Belt.

The Above Speeches were sent down by the Six Nations to be delivered to the Mohawks and were brought by Sequareesere the chief Sachem of Tuscarora, and delivered to Sir William Johnson at Canajoharee in the Presence of

Capt. Montour Interpr.

George Croghan Esqr. . . And several Conajoharee Sachems

INDORSED: Indian Intelligence
from Sir William Johnson
Fort Johnson Jan^r. 29th. 1758.
in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby. 14. 1758
46

* Meaning any but themselves, as they are no Soldiers.

TO GEORGE CROGHAN

*Df. S.**Fort Johnson Jan^y. 30th. 1758*

SIR

As nothing can more effectually rivett or attach the Indians of the Six Nations to his Majestys Interest, than a fair Trade wth. & good Usage to them, which I understand they have not at the German Flatts, You will repair thither, and see that Justice be done to what Indians may trade there, Weighing their Skins & be present while they are trading, & suffer no Injustice of any kind to be done them. Such Usage & care taken of them will spread far, & near, & be a means of drawing more distant Nations into our Interest.

You will let those who trade there know, that if any of them offer to use an Indian Ill or defraud them in trade they Shall be prosecuted to the utmost rigour of the Law, and never Suffered to trade there again at any rate.

You will endeavour to gett all the Intelligence you possibly can of the Enemy's designs & Motions, & Send me the earliest Notice thereof, at the same time you will acquaint the Comm^ds officer there, of whatever may concern the Safety of his Majestys Garrison under his Command, & Whatever News you hear from the Westward, or otherwise among the Indians you will keep an exact Journal of, and send me it from time to time.

I wish you a good time of it, and am Sr.

W^m. JOHNSON

After you are settled a day or two there, let Cap^t. Butler come down here.

TO GEORGE CROGHAN Esq^r.

TO JELLES FONDA

The foregoing letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 92, by Johnson's letter to Captain Jelles Fonda, of February 9th, conveying instructions regarding duties at Canajoharie Castle. Destroyed by fire.

TO COMMISSARY OF ORDNANCE

Df. S.

Fort Johnson [March 3^d. 1758]

SIR

there were 24 barrels [] stored in y^e. Magazine last year [] were part of his Majestys Present to the Indians Sent by Lord Loudoun & as I shall want Amunition in case any attempt should be made by the Enemy this, or any other way, I now Send to you for it. the Bearer hereof will pass his receipt for the Same.

I am Sr.

Y^r. Very Humble Serv^t.W^m. JOHNSON

To the Commissary
of the Ordinance
at Albany

INDORSED: March 3^d. 1758
letter to y^e. Comissary
of the Ordinance
at Albany
⌘ Lieu^t. Clause

JAMES ABERCROMBY TO THOMAS BARROW

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 92, by Major General James Abercromby's warrant of March 4th on Thomas Barrow, directing payment of £2000 sterling to Johnson. Destroyed by fire.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

A. L. S.

[Fort Herkemer March 12th 1758¹]

I wrote you yeste [] with five More was gon out [] Swegachey and this Morning I sent [] out on this side y^e. River to keepe []

¹ The date is supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

any small party Might Come this side [] were friends to Deceive us till they gott hear they will Cross tomorrow above Cases and so Come Round home.

this Afternoon Came hear old Brant¹ & powless² and brought with them Arant Brants son in law and Isace of Conjouary with a young Dutch Lad to go on the scout they say they will go Near Swegachey if Nott all the way, to which I have Incurouged them and oferd 50 Dollars for a prisner, as I Make No Doubt Butt those three partys will Do there Duty I think the Enemy Can Nott stale upon us in y^e. Night itt is True those partys are Expensiffe as I have snow shoes and Indian shoes with some other artickles to furnish to Most of them besides paying them a Dollar ~~per~~ Day and to some something More yett I hope itt will be thought Money well Lay^d. out I shall Continue them till I have y^r. orders to y^e. Contreary and actt with y^e. greatest frugality in my power I Cant halp Noticeing to you that y^e. Conjouarys shoes a greatt Dale of zeal for y^e. English Intrest as there is Nott a Day butt they send one hear to hear whatt News I am with great Esteem and Regard y^r. honours

Most obeadent humble Servant

GEO. CROGHAN

[] I understand itt was old brant & old Nickess³ that sett this scout on foott.

¹ Nicholas (Nickus) Brant, of Canajoharie, believed to have been the father of Joseph Brant.— William L. Stone, *Life of Joseph Brant*, p. 3–5.

² Paulus, a Canajoharie sachem. See Pieter D. Schuyler and others to Johnson, June 6, 1757.

³ There was a Canajoharie Indian named Nickus Hance, also known as old Hickus.

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

*A. Df. S.**<Fort Johnson 14th March 1758*

DEAR BANYAR

Look not on my Silence in a bad> light had you <only a feint Idea of my present> troublesome, unsettled< & dangerous (altho not spoke of) Situation, you would> Sooner pitty, than censure <me. I have> Just time to acknowledge <the receipt of y^{rs}> with the Commissions, w^h. I sent to Collo <Glen, &> desired him to receive the Fees, Dr. Friend I cant help venting a little of my Passion to you, on the Lieu^t. Gov^{rs}. using me in the Manner he has done, but as it is not the first time, My Surprise is not so much. I mean wth. regard to y^e. Civil Coms^{ns}. I should not have recommended altho entitled to it a Man, if he had not desired it, by Sybrant Vanscoike, who wrote me so. after that, to Slight my recommendation without giving me any reason, I think is not the genteelest usage I have mett with. it is a disagreeable Subject, & therefore will not trouble you with it, but promise I shall take better care how I recommend for the future. & to whom.

Your last letter of the 4th. of March I have also received two days ago and am obliged to you for the news you write me. I heartily wish with you, that there had been a push made this Winter, as I think we could not fail of Success haveing verry little more than the weather to encounter w^h. was nothing if provided against. but that, I fear was not duely considered, & now it's too late for this Winter. We have only to wish now for an Early <Campaign, & Success — which I wish you in all Your Undertakeings, & am Sincerely

Your Friend, & Humble Serv^t.W^m. JOHNSON

P. S. the Dutch are grown so imperious Since y^e.> present <Administration, that in> Short there's <Scarce any bear-

ing> with them. for <Englishmen> are thought so little of, by them, that the mean <low> lived Rascalls refuse <takeing Com>missions, and declare they will not serve <under> an English, or Irish Officer. In Campbell's Case there's an Instance of it; those named for his officers have all refused, Wherefore now Send you the names of three others as good Men as can be got for that, and another for an Ensigny in Wormwood's Company. w^h. you will please to give the Governour, as I have not time to ¹; the Sooner the Commissions come up the better. there is not so likely, or brisk a Man in the Regiment for an Officer as Campbell, nor a Man in Schenectady better qualified for a Justice altho rejected, & Captⁿ. Conin from a Justice of Quorum (as He tells me) is now a Common Justice altho as well qualified for the Former, as any Dutchman in the County. excuse those disagreeable Hints, they must be so, to any Man who has a Drop of English Blood.

I am Sorry our Half King so notoriously gives the World reason to think he has but little.

I am Y^{rs}.

W. JOHNSON

pray tell Parker I am surprised he does not Send me the Votes, & Proceedings of the House, & the Acts passed

To GOLDSBORROW BANYAR Esq^r.

ON MARGIN: Letter to Banyar

March 14th. 1758

TO WILLIAM KELLY

A. Df. S.

[Fort Johnson March 15th 1758]

[
²] Acc^{tt} came [] hurried, & tossed about
 [] that I have not had time [] Scarce

¹ Manuscript torn. "Write" can be supplied.

² Lines missing.

a Moments leisure [] Indians of Severall Nations
 & [] Some time ago to cast up the am^t. of
 [] by You for the Indians, w^h. came to £[]
 Cent, (which is what Oliver Delancey charged []
 bought for a Present intended by y^e. Government []
 the Indians, & fell into my Hands afterwards as Sr. Charles
 Hardy was not allowed to deliver them.) which am^{td}. to
 £32, 15, 6, and was then put to your Credit.

I have not it in my power now to compare Your Ac^{tt}. with
 my Books, as Lieu^t. Clause in y^e. late Alarm when I was at y^e.
 German Flatts, sent them & many other things to Albany for
 safety.

I must beg the favor of you to Send me by the first sloops if
 possible 1000 Bushels of good Indian Corn if to be had reason-
 able, as I now hear it is, if Dear, Send me but 500 bushels.—Also
 a Pipe of good Madeira Wine by a Safe Hand, a Hogshead of
 good West India Rum for Punch not high priced, 4 Dozen of
 good Neats tounques well smoaked, a good large Cheshire Cheese,
 6 p^s. of red tape for binding up letters, a large Box, & Brush
 with Scented Soap for Shaveing, a tin box or any other with
 pomatum, 1 C^t. loaf sugar 6 Wash Balls.

The price M^{rs}. Alexander offered for the silks I think looks
 like her takeing an advantage,— however if you cannot sell them
 for more, You may let her have them at that price.

[]
 []¹] Your Most H[]
 [] little while W. JOHNSON
 [] Volunt

To M^R. W^M. KELLY

INDORSED: March 15th. 1758

Letter to M^r. W^m. Kelly

¹ Lines missing.

WILLIAM TRENT TO GEORGE CROGHAN

A. L. S.¹Lancaster, March 19th. 1758D^R SIR:

This day I received yours from the German Flats — Last night I came home from Winchester which place I left the 14th of this Month, the day before I left it came in a Party of Fifteen Cherokees from the Over Hill Towns (these — all the seven or eight Hundred Indians are come too which for these several Weeks past we have had Accounts of being in the Road for Virginia) the enclosed Speech of the first February 1758 was sent by them from the head Warrior of Chite [?] & the other Speech of August 1757 came last fall; I inclose you the speeches that you may see the Gov^t. of Virginia pursues their old Method of making great promises performing nothing by which probably we may loose the Southern Indians ²

About three Weeks agoe a Party of Ten Cherokees came in to the So. Bra ² from Fort Du Quesne they set out from their own Towns in order to get more S(calps?) ² from the Fort but the Snow falling very deep while they were near the Fort ² remained a Fortnight in one place till their Provisions were out ² two to view the Fort & get a Scalp if possible but were discovered and ² obliged to run all the way in, these two Partys with 60 that have been in ² winter make 85 in all — this last Party have attempted to goe out twice ² Snow's which fell very deep obliged them to return — some of them are gon ² Annapolis with a Complaint against Cap^t. Paris — I imagine set on by Smith [?] who I look upon to be a very good for nothing fellow

¹ From the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, 19:1, p. 64-65. The badly burned original of this letter is in the Library Collection.

² Manuscript torn previous to the fire of 1911.

— as soon as they return ¹ the whole goe to War —
 Watts writes that he expects to be in the begining ¹ April
 with a large party — Thirteen days ago Cap^t. Bosomworth set
 out from this Town for Williamburgh it is said he is gone for
 the Cherokees. Upon application being made by my L. Loudoun
 our Assembly ¹ him Eight Hundred of their Provincials
 & Sent a Bill to the Govenor ¹ but as the Proprietor is
 taxed it is doubted whether it will pass ¹ Assembly has
 voted 400 Men & sent up a Bill for Thirty Thousand Pounds
 but for the same reason the Gov^r: refused it.

Coll: Burd ² tells me that some Indians from the Ohio are
 gone to Philadelphia with some Belts of Wampum I have not
 heard the Speech neither could I learn from him whether they
 were Delawares, Shawnesse or foreigners — he tells me that
 Tadjuscungs son with two or three more ¹ Gang are
 gone to Ohio to bring a Prisoner — I find by him that they are
 still in hopes of getting a trade fixed with the Indians as I heard
 him say he knew some gentlemen that would advance Twenty
 Thousand Pounds towards carrying it on. There is a good
 many Indians of one sort or other at Shamokin M^r Carson who
 is appointed to trade with them Indians is gone to Philad^a. and
 as I did not see him I cannot learn who they are. I am

Dr Sir

Your most hum^l Serv^t

WILLIAM TRENT

¹ Manuscript torn previous to the fire of 1911.

² Colonel James Burd, of Pennsylvania. He was in command of Fort
 Augusta at Shamokin from 1756 to 1757.

JAMES CAMPBELL'S EXAMINATION

D. S.¹*March 24, 1758*

The Examination of James Campbell, an Irishman, and resident at the German Flatts many years, where he married German Woman, & followed the Oswego Trade a long time. In March 1756 was an Interpreter at Bulls Fort ² on the West End of the great, or Oneida Carrying place where he was taken Prisoner, when that Fort & garrison were destroyed, by about 500 French, & Indians who Carried him & several Battoe & Slay Men to Canada, there put him on an Island about 20 Miles below Montreal, lest he should hold any Correspondence with the Indians, as he could speak their Language. He Says that provisions are very Scarce & dear, particularly among the Peasants, or Country People from whom, the Governour has taken what he thought proper, for the use of the army, and Stored it in the Kings Magazines. So that they are obliged to pay 7d a pound for Horse flesh, & 20 Livres for a Bushel of Indian Corn. He says that if the Canadians had been detained Six days longer at Lake George last August, their whole Crop would have been lost, as it was, they were great Sufferers, haveing had 15 Days rain Successively after they got Home w^h. much damaged what little was left unshed.— about two days before he left Canada, w^h was the 1st. of March, Mr. Montcalm arrived there, & then 100 Indians marched for Tiendarogo, and 100 more were to follow in a Couple of Days. He imagines there are great Numbers of French, & Indians now at Crown Point, or Tiendarogo, as there were some thousand Indian Sleds made this Winter In Canada (as he heard) for the transportation of provision &^{ca}. to them Posts. He further Says, that it has been for some time, & is

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² Fort Bull occupied a site on Wood creek, two and one-half miles from the site of Fort Stanwix.

still the common report in Canada among the Country People and those he conversed with, as well as the opinion of the French Indians, (from what the Governour of Canada told them,) which he learnt from the Indian who conducted him Home, that there would a Large Army March verry early agst. Fort Edward, & if successfull to Albany. at the Same time a Small Army, would come down the Mohawk River, by the way of Oswego and to Schenectady if possible. He says he did not see many Troops in Canada, and believes there are a great Number gone to Crown Point, & Tiendarogo. He also Says that he saw three of the Prisoners who were taken this Winter at Fort Edward, or about there in Canada, a little before he left, and that he heard it was on acc^t. of the Cattle killed this Winter at Tiendarogo, and Wood burnt by our People there, and a Store house, the Governour prevailed on a Body of Indians to Join some French to go & ravenge it.

Lastly he Says that some time in y^e. Fall, a few of the Onon-dagaes were in Canada, and He heard that they were prevailed on to take up the Hatchet against the English.

further the Examinant Saith not

He says there are a great Number of Battoes built at Mon-treal,— taken by me this 24th. day of March 1758

W^m JOHNSON

WILLIAM DENNY TO [JAMES ABERCROMBY ?]

Contemporary Copy

<Philadelphia 24th March 1758

SIR

On the fifteenth of last Month, Ten Deleware> Indians arrived at Fort Augus<ta,¹ and acquainted the Com>manding Officer, that they <were Messengers of good News> & came from the Ohio by the Way of <Diahogo. An heavy> Snow

¹At Shamokin, Pa.

detained them there some time, & <when it abated, they> Proceeded to this City; calling in their Way on <Teedyuscung> the Delaware Chief; who since the last Treaty <at Easton> has Chiefly resided at Bethlehem among the Moravian Brethern.

The inclosed Minutes will Shew you what has passed in Publick; I am under great Disadvan<tage> for Want of a Delaware Interpreter; being obliged to <depend> on Such as Teedyuscung brings along with him; and <they> are none of the best; for they are Natives of the West Jersey have lived there from their Infancy, and are intirely unacquainted with foreign Indians and their Customs. All I can learn of their Story by Private Conversation, is that Several of those Tribes of Indians, who made Incursions on these Provinces, are turning fast on our Side, and that some of the Twightwee Tribes, & of the far Nations Over the Lakes are of the same Mind. That the well disposed of these Several Nations, have sent these Messengers privately off to acquaint this Government of their Dispositions <And the Messengers Say, that, as their Belts have Been Well received they are Certain, These Indians will join the King's Army against the French; & send them back to tell us so. This is impor>tant News, and may be <improved to gain their> assistance in the Ensuing Campaign.

<For want> of more particular Information, as to the <Characters> & Numbers of the Persons, who sent these Messen<gers> it has been thought adviseable only to deal in Generals, & wait to see what further Acc^{ts}. the Messengers, who say positively they are to return immediately, will bring us. Then, & not till then, It will be proper to make them Proposals to join the Kings forces.

You will Please to transfer Copies of these Minutes to Sir William Johnson; as these Indians are of a very great distance from Sir William Residence; living far to the West of the Ohio; they may with more Convenience apply here, & be more readily brought into his Majesty's Friendship & Alliance; and on this Consideration, I hope what has been done will meet with Appro-

bation. It would give me a very great Pleasure to contribute to the regaining of the Indians; and on this & every other Occasion to receive Advice from the Commander in Chief, & his Majesty's Agent for Indian Affairs.

You will Observe by the inclosed Message of the Assembly that after perusing the Minutes of these Conferences, which I laid before them, they have in pretty Warm Terms advised me to invite some of the Chiefs of these Indians to this City; in Order to Confirm them in their Friendship; but I did not Chuse to do this, least the Indians from whom <These Belts came, Should be the Same as went lately to Onondaga, & with whom Sir William Johnson was to have had a Meeting; but was prevented by an Account, that the french> & Indians were< marching to Cutt of the German Flatts.>

It may be of great use <to make the Invitation; as we can> no other ways know with Certainty <their Characters, Strength> Number, & Dispositions, & be able <to Concert Matters with> them, but as this may interfere with Sir <William Johnson's> Or your Measures, I shall not do it unless You <approve, and> will be pleased to favour me with your Commands.

INDORSED: 24th March 1758
 Governor Denny's
 Ans^d 1st. April
 Rec^d: 31st March
 by Br.Stanwix

A MESSAGE FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY

*Contemporary Copy.*¹

24th. March 1758.

<A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.>

May it please you<r Honour

We beg leave to observe, that by the> Minutes of the Con-

¹ Inclosed in Denny to Abercromby, March 24, 1758, q. v.

ferences with <the Indians laid> before us from time to time, since the <Treaty of Easton> it does not appear that any effectual Measures have been taken to recover our fellow Subjects from the Captivity they are under with the Indians with whom a Treaty of Peace has been long since concluded; nor even to remind them of their Engagements to restore them. We therefore think it our duty to recommend it to your Honour, before the Indians depart from this City, to make some enquiry after the Captives and to take such Measures as shall be most likely to restore them to their Country, Families & Friends. We also think it absolutely necessary for the Welfare of this Province and the Promotion of His Majesty's Indian Interest in America that a Friendly and kind Invitation <shou'd be given to the Chiefs of each of the Eight Tribes of Indians, that have by a late messenger shown an Inclination to> enter into an Alliance <with His Majesty, and> take up Arms against <His Enemies, that> some of them wou'd when <it was> convenient to them, take an Opportunity of Visiting this Government, and further Ratifying the great work of peace so happily begun, and now almost Perfected.

The good Effects this Province has already felt, and His Majestys Interest in General is likely to receive from the Late Conferences with them are such Proofs of the good Policy of such an Invitation, that we hope we need not add any thing further to enforce it.

Signed by order of the House

Tho^s. Leech Speaker

A True Copy.

RICHARD PETERS

Secr^y.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

A. L.

[Fort Herkémir, March 18-25, 1758]

This Day Came hear [] and Eleven Sinicas who brings [] what these that Came two Days []

The 19th. Came hear James Campble [] his Escape from Canada and Says that y^e french is Much Distrest for Provisions that they are oblidg^d. to Eatt horse flesh, which gives y^e [] and that Indian Corn is Sold att 20 Livers & Bushell he Says that Moncolem Came to Monreal two Days before he Sett out from Quebeck where he was all Winter that y^e Day before he Sett of from Cogneweago that 102 Indians Sett of as he understood by way of Tieandarroga to anoye y^e. Inhabitance About albany and that Next Day 100 More was to Follow them from A Nother Indian Town this is 21 Days Sence y^e. first party Sett of he Says he herde Nothing of any body Coming this way Till Spring tho is Shure that y^e. french prepar^d. this fall past to Carry on an Expedition from Caterequis to this place this Winter butt Cant [] to putt in Execut[ion] thing fitt Butt he thinks they [] with a body this way [] to fort Edward and Says it [] that boath bodys are to Meet in []

He Says there has been great Prepearthen [ma]king this Winter in Montreal and a vast Number of Battoes is Ready Now he Says they have been Merching trupes all Winter to Tyonderogo

Goweaay an onieda Indian with whome I have had a Good Dale of Conversation and who has been att Canady Confirms Every thing that Campble Says with this Differance that he Says Greatt want of provisions is ocation^d. by y^e. Ginreals Storeing itt up Last fall for y^e. use of the Trupes this Spring and Says there is a Store of Provisions in Every Indian Town for y^e. Suport of y^e. Indian Women and Children to be open^d. this

Spring and given to them when the Men are on Service with y^e. french Trupes.

This Evening Came hear ten More Cayugoes to Tread 20th. this Morning I Sent a String of Wampum for y^e. Indian who asisted Campble to Meke his Escape and p^d. y^e. two Indians who brought him hear two Gallons of Rum [] this Day the Several [] with Sir William on public [] one Cuntrey after Makeing [] for a Walking Stick to Each [] under a Nesesity of Complying [] Send them home well Satisfy^d.

This Evening 14 Sinecas Came hear [] Butt brings No News butt what I have had before.

The 21st this Evening Vanskikes party of White Men & Indians Return^d. from a Scout and Report that they Discovered No tracks or Signes of an Enemy

the 22^d. this Day Came hear ten Cayugoes to tread who Inquiered of Me if Sir William was Ready to Come to y^e. Insueing Meeting att Onondgo I tould them that I Blived Nott Nor Did I think you was Invited, they Said that thire Nation & the Sinecas Expected to See you there and that the Cheeffs who had been att y^r. house had orders to Invite you and Acompany you up

The 23^d. this Day Came hear Arant Brants Soninglaw with A White Man and 4 Indians More to go y^e. Scout whome I imploy^d. and Sent outh Agreeable to Sir Williams orders [¹] of Conjoehery and [] y^e. Scout and S^d. they ware [] there was a Scout gon out I thought [] back without Immploying them [] of those gon out

[] noon Came hear 14 onondagos and Senicas [] I have had A good Dail of Conversetion with them they Tell Me that the french has Made Great Preperations this Winter in order to Take the fild Early this Spring an old Man A Mongst them Tells Me that the french will Cartianly

¹ Several lines apparently are lost.

attack Fort Edward Some time in y^e. Next Moon and he Thinks they will Send this way Much about y^e. Same time, Campble who Made his Escape is of y^e. Same opinion with those Indians —

the 25th No Indians Came hear Nor Did any Sett of as they are Weating for goods & Rum Comeing up there being butt Little hear att present to Suply Indians with

The Indians Now hear is Very Impeatient to gett home as they Expect y^e. Meeting att onondago to be Compleate before they gett home So that I hope they Sett of tomorrow, hear is 74 besides Tuskerroras who is attending a sick Man in y^e. [fort?]

A SENECA TO JOHNSON

*Contemporary Copy.*¹

Fort Johnson, 25th. March 1758 —

Several Senacas arrived here from their Country in ten Days, who having desired at Meeting spoke as follows.—

Prest.

St. William Johnson —

Capt. Montour, Interpreter —

Caniyeans Speaker —

BROTHER WARRAGHYJAGHEY,

Your Friend Tienwhagera (meaning the Cow Shooter, a great Sachem of the Senecas & true to Our Interest) having received several Accounts lately of the Designs of the French &c^a, sent us down with Orders to communicate them to you.

We are now (Thank the great Spirit for it) safe arrived, notwithstanding the many Obstructions & discouragements, we met with from (we now find) disaffected Persons, who told us You were greatly out of Temper and might destroy us.— However, we were detirmined to see you, and we are now glad of sitting

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Sent by Johnson to James Abercromby, by Abercromby to William Pitt.

with you, by the Council Fire of the 6: Nations, where we shall open Our Hearts, and communicate every Thing we know to you.

Be then attentive, Brother,

The Commanding Officer at Fort Detroit some Time last Autumn sent Messengers to the several Ottawawa Nations, Jienundadees, Twightwees &cã, to desire they wou'd stay at Home for some Time, as he was preparing to kindle a very large Council Fire at His Fort, in Order to call them to it, and there settle some Matters of the utmost Consequence to them.

They sent him for Answer, that they wou'd acquaint their Allies, as they live far off, extending Quite to Mississippi, which wou'd take some Time, however there came a Number of Indians of the different and distant Nations to attend said Meeting.

When met at the Village of the Jienundadees close by Fort Detroit, Saghstag'hre'yi, Chief of that Nation, told the others that he had Learnt something of what the French intended to propose at that Meeting, & it being of a very interesting Nature, advised and begged of them, not to be too hasty in their Resolutions or Answer to the French.—

Being now met at the Fort, after a great Deal of Form &cã. the Commandant told them, that what he was now going to lay before them, was from the great King of France, His Master, whose Commands he was to obey at any Rate and then proceeded thus.

Children, of the several Nations now met here.

The King Your Father, being very sensible, that neither he, the English, or you, have a right title or Claim to the Lands you now live on, being the Property of the Six Nations by Conquest, and he having nothing more at Heart, than the Happiness of His Children, has wisely thought of an Expedient, and the only one, to make You and Yours live quiet and happy hereafter, which is to fall upon the Six Nations, and cut them off from the Face of the Earth, to facilitate which Your Father has been for Years, and is still endeavouring to persuade the Six Nations, (now grown a degenerate and foolish People) to quarrel with their Brethren the English, and is now in Hopes of succeeding. This

must involve them in a War with the English, & consequently make their Necks so small, that they must fall an easy Victim to us, when we fall upon them. It is your Father, the Great King's Pleasure, to have this brought about, & accomplished towards the next fall.

After this the Commandant stood up, and on telling them this was the Chief, and only Reason of His Calling them to the Meeting, he took a War Belt of 8. Feet long, and one Foot broad, threw it before them, and desired they wou'd not hesitate at taking it up, then had the Head knocked out of a Hogshead of Claret, drank the King of France's Health in the Blood of the 6. Nations (meaning the Claret) and hoped they wou'd all follow the Example.

Some of the distant Western Nations were about taking up the War Belt, & singing their War-Song, but Saghsta'ghe'ry, the Jienondadee Chief before mentioned, took up the Belt and in an angry Mood, told all the Nations present, that he did not think it proper any of them shou'd sing the War Song before they had maturely consider'd the Purport of what was spoke with the Belt, which he look'd upon to be of a very serious and interesting Nature, and deserving a due Consideration. Upon which they withdrew, and held a Council in the Woods amongst themselves, when the Jienondadee Chief spoke as follows.

"I am surprised at your Conduct & Readiness to take up the French Hatchet, without considering the Consequence, especially as I gave you a Caution, before we entered the Fort or Council Room of the French. He then added, How can I, who am the Flesh and Blood of the Six Nations and in whose Towns Numbers of our Friends & Children are living and settled, declare War against them. Where are there any of the Nations now present, that are not allied to the Six Nations also. To take up the Hatchet against them, wou'd in my Opinion be wrong. Therefore I now declare before you all, that I will not comply with what is proposed by this Belt." And then he kicked it from him, towards where the Twightwees sat, & desired they wou'd speak their Sentiments.

After a short pause the Twightwees replied, that the Six Nations were their old Friends and Allies, and therefore they wou'd never come into what the French proposed by that Belt, so kicked it from them to the Nations from Illinois and about Mississippi, who after some Consultation together, said; that when the Six Nations formerly conquered them, and several other Nations around them, and had it in their Power to destroy them, entirely and did not do it, they cou'd not think it right to turn their Enemies now, so threw the Belt from them to some of the other Nations, who all joined in Opinion with the Rest who spoke before them, so that they unanimously rejected the Proposal of the French; Then went to the Commandant, who made the Speech to them, and told him, that as it was an Affair of great Moment, which he laid before them, they wou'd take Time to consider of it in their Respective Countrys, and then send him their ultimate Resolutions

N. B.

This account was brought by Tahaddyha, a Jienondadee Chief, & some Twightwees &c, who were sent purposely to acquaint the Six Nations of it.— They told it at Niagara to several Senecas there, and at Kanawayon, on the Back of the Seneca Country.—

A true Extract from the Original
Minutes.— Examined by me

PETER WRAXALL

Sec^{ry}. Indⁿ. Affairs.—

Copy

INDORSED: Copy

Intelligence from a Seneca Sachem
Enclosed in Sr. William Johnson's
N^o 1. April 28th. 1758 —
in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24:
1758
21.

WILLIAM DENNY TO GEORGE WASHINGTON

*Contemporary Copy*¹

<Philadelphia 25 March 1758

SIR

Several Accounts having been brought during> the Winter, as there was <a Disposition in the Western Indians> to return to their Old Friends, <the English; and as there has> been little or no Mischief done on <the Frontiers of this &> the Neighbouring Provinces of late, <it is not unlikely> but the Indians are Changing every Day <in our favour.>

We have no small Confirmation of the <Truth> of these Accounts by some Messages, which have been delivered to me, a Relation whereof you will find in the inclosed Paper Besides what Teedyuscung has said in Publick from the Mouth of the Messengers, who came directly from the Ohio by the Way of Diahogo, the expressly declare, that since the Peace Belts, sent by these Indians, who were formerly our friends, have been so kindly received by this Govern^{mt}. they are sure, on their receiving this News, they shall be sent back immediately with an Account of their separating from the French, & coming to Join our friendly Indians in Parties against them.

A few Days ago Letters arrived here from Winchester informing that Several Parties of Cherokees were Com there & were preparing to go against the french & their Indians on the Ohio. These Messengers were some how or other made acquainted with this, and the no sooner heard it <than Teedyuscung with them came in a formal Manner to me with the following Address.

Brother, I would have> You also dispatch <a Messenger²

¹ Inclosed in Denny to Abercromby, April 7, 1758, q. v., and in Abercromby to Johnson, April 10, 1758. Printed in *Pennsylvania Archives*, fourth series, ed. George Edward Reed, 2:914-16.

² The letter in the *Pennsylvania Archives* differs in several particulars from this. In the former the words, "Brother, I would have you also dispatch a Messenger" are preceded by a paragraph of seven lines in

immediately to the Chero>kees, to inform them what is <done and to Stop them.> For if any Mischief is done it will not be <Said, the> Cherokees did it, but that You have done it; who <hired> & Sent them, & this will undo all that we have done. But when the Indian Nations are informed of the Peace we have made, then all the Indians will come & Join those Cherokees, & be all friends with the English, and all together will go against the French.

Being asked what Sort of Message can be Sent to the Cherokees that will not do harm; for should any Indians Come down with french Men at their Head, as they have always done, what then must be done.

Teedyuscung replied, I would therefore have the Messenger sent, as soon as possible to prevent any of the Indians joining with the French; I have Reason to believe, that the Cherokees hate the Delawares & Shawonese and do not desire they should become our friends, but would have them all destroyed, having long born them Great Enmity; so that it is a Nice Point how to communicate this News to them, without giving them Disgust; and if any of the Earlyer Parties of the Cherokees take Miff, & should return disgusted, they may turn back many <other Parties, that may be on their Way to join his Majesty's Forces.

As this ill Consequence, can I think, be well> avoided if Prudence <be observed in the Communication of this> News, in Compliance with <Teedyuscung Request. I send this> Express, desiring that the whole <Matter may be related> to the Cherokees, & they be requested to <have Regard to the rate¹> in their Scouting Parties.

I am persuaded there is a good <Disposition> in Several
which the necessity of warning the Ohio Indians to separate from the French is urged; and the words between "against the French" and "I have reason to believe" are omitted. These are the only noteworthy differences.

¹ In the copy the phrase reads, "have regard to the rate." The reading in the *Pennsylvania Archives* is "regard thereto."

Indian Tribes, lately our bitter Ene<mies, towards> the English, and as it would be a great Misfortune, that this should be in any wise discouraged or obstructed I hope you will find a way of engaging the Cherokees to attend seriously to the Request made by Teedyuscung & these Indians.

I Beg the favour to know what Numbers of Cherokees are already come, & how many more are expected & in what Manner they will Dispose of themselves till the Rendezvous of the king's Forces.

I am,

Sir Your most humble Serv^t.

William Denny

A True Copy

RICHARD PETERS

Secretary

INDORSED: Copy 25th. March 1758
Letter from Governor Denny
To Col. Washington,
Commanding Officer of
the Virginia Forces

FROM GEORGE AUGUSTUS HOWE

A. L. S.

Albany March 28 1758

S^r:

I was last night favoured with yours <of the 26th¹> with the inclosed examination of Campbel,² & the proceedings <of the> last meeting. Both which I shall forthwith transmit to Gen^l. Abercrombie. Nothing could be more proper & becoming than <your> Speech to the Indians, & I hope it will have the desired effect.

¹ Not found.

² James Campbell's Examination, March 24, 1758, q. v.

The Enemy will meet with considerable obstacles in putting such a design as Campbel mentions in execution. Should their situation how<ever> be so desperate as he represents, they may make a desperate push; for which reason give me leave to recommend to you to use all possible meth<ods> of procuring intelligence. If any Indian on whose truth & fidelity you can rely will be sent to Cadaraqui, his observations there would give great light into the Enemy's intentions, as would the taking of a prisoner. A party for this purpose has been ordered out some days ago from Fort Edward to Crown Point.

What you mention concerning a post at the Blockhouse above Canajohary is quite proper, you will be so good as to order an Offr. & what number of men there you think fitt; In case the provincials have not directions to follow your orders, (which I understand they have) dispatches are sent for that purpose to the 2 Captains, which I take the liberty of inclosing to you.

I am with great regard

Sr.

Yr. Most obedient
humble Servt.

HOWE

Sr. W^m. JOHNSON Bar^t.

INDORSED: Lord Howe;
March, 1758

FROM JOHN OGILVIE

A. L. S.

<Albany March 28th 1758>

DEAR SIR

I imagine before this you have <heard all y^e publick News> from Great Britain: That Lord Loudoun <is recalled, that Gen^l> Abercrombie succeeds him in y^e chief comm<and>: That Adm^l:> Boscawen is to command both y^e navy & land For<ces>



LORD HOWE
George Augustus Viscount Howe

against Louisburgh> that Whetmore's,¹ Forbes,² tow Battalions of y^e Americans, & <Otway's³ go upon> that Quarter: the 48th likewise go that way: the 44th Murr<ay's⁴ &> Blakeney's,⁵ the Highland⁶ & lord How's,⁷ & one Battalion of y^e Ameri<cans> are to act here with 20000 Provincials, under gen^l Abercromby A considerable Number of Provincials, & one Half of Stanwix's Reg^t,⁸ Montgomeries Highland Reg^t.⁹ & y^e Independ^{ts}. are to go to y^e Ohio under y^e Command of Brigadier Forbes: All y^e Col^s are made Brigadier Gen^{ls} & y^e Lieu^t Col^s have y^e Rank of full Col^s in America only: Bradstreet is deputy Quarter Master Gen^l. All this promotion, & Disposition of troops is made at Home by y^e Ministry.

At present we have little News stirring, only that y^e brave Oliver Delancey is to be Col^l commandant of y^e New York Provincials but what other officers I do not hear

The late Affair of Rogers's¹⁰ was gallant & bloody, & a considerable Proof of his bravery and Conduct. But Envy that Arch Fiend will not <allow him much Merit. I am> glad to find you are quiet <at present your Way. I do not> as yet hear, what Troops are to be <posted at y^e German Flats:> I hope they will think that Quarter <worth their Attention. I am Sir>

with the most sincere Esteem

Your's &c

JOHN OGILVIE

¹ Colonel Edward Whitmore, of the 22d regiment.

² Colonel John Forbes, of the 17th regiment, commander of the expedition against Fort Duquesne.

³ Colonel Charles Otway, of the 35th regiment.

⁴ Colonel Thomas Murray, of the 46th regiment.

⁵ Lord William Blakeney, colonel of the 27th regiment.

⁶ Lord John Murray's Royal Highlanders, the 42d regiment.

⁷ George Augustus Viscount Howe, colonel of the 55th regiment.

⁸ Colonel John Stanwix, of the 62d, the Royal American, afterward known as the 60th regiment.

⁹ Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Montgomery, of the 77th regiment.

¹⁰ Robert Rogers's fight near Rogers Rock occurred March 13, 1758.

P S. Excuse my Haste. Please to tell Mr Clause, that y^e 3^d Battalion goes to Halifax, & y^e 4th comes This Way. I had forgot to tell you that Gen^l Webb is sailed for England, Provoost desir'd Leave to resign his Commission in order to go with Mr. Webb, but was refused.

FROM JACOB ORNDT TO JAMES BURD¹

*Contemporary Copy*¹

<Copy

Fort Allen March 29th 1758.

SIR

I receiv'd Your favour of the 8th Curr: in forming> of the Indians comeing <in, but they were past before the> Letter came to my Hand. <I sent a Soldier with 'em> as far as Bethlehem. They <are not yet returned.>

The 25th Curr: arrived <here Twenty> Indians from Diaghogo with several <Strings of> White Wampum assuring the English, that <they> wou'd keep their Young Men at home, and woud <do> no more harm to the Inhabitants. They informed Us, that as soon as these Men returned, there would be a great Number of Indians in to hold a Treaty with Pennsylvania; these are Monsey's and Mohicon's.

Sir, I have almost finish'd the Trench about the Fort, and intend setting up Saplings, to hinder the Enemy from breaking over the Trench.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient

humble Servant

Jacob: Orndt

COLONEL JAMES BURD

¹ Inclosed in Denny to Abercromby, April 7, 1758, q. v., and in Abercromby to Johnson, April 10, 1758.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL OF OFFICERS

*Contemporary Copy*¹

<The Proceedings of a Council of Officers held at Fort Loudoun in Virginia, March 30th. 1758, called by Cap^t. Tho^s. Bullit to consider whether a Proposal of Peace (offered by King Teedyuscung and several Indian> chiefs to the hon^{ble}. Wil<liam Denny Esq^r., Governor of Pensilvania, & by> them imparted to the Com<manding Officer of the Virginia Forces at> Fort Loudoun, requesting him <to communicate it to the Cherokees) can> be proposed to the southern Indians, <without great danger of disgusting> them, and incurring their displeasure, in <such a manner, as may be> prejudicial to the Interest of the British <Colonies in America.>

Present in Council

Cap ^t . Tho ^s . Bullit President	En ^s . Roy
Lieu ^t . Campbell	Lieu ^t . Buckner
Lieu ^t . Thomson	Lieu ^t . Smith

Members

1st. We considered that

The Cherokees are now firmly engaged by our means in a <War> against the French & their Indians, & having received some <small> Losses, have frequently begged of us, not to think of making Peace till they as well as we are satisfied.

2^{dly}. They are a jealous people, and may probably say, when they hear a peace is proposed, that we are about to do, what they have often told us they were afraid of; namely, that as soon as they had firmly engaged for us and incensed many Nations, by their Friendship for the English, we should make peace & leave them to be destroyed.

¹ Inclosed in Bullit to Denny, March 31, 1758, *q. v.*, in Denny to Abercromby, April 7, 1758, and in Abercromby to Johnson, April 10, 1758.

3^{dly}. We believe that such a proposal would be equally disagreeable to the Catawbias, Creeks, Tuscaroras and otherr southern nations (who are now our sincere Friends and many of them deeply engaged in the present War) as to the Cherokees.

4^{thly}. As a disgust given to these Nations (and we have great reason to believe from all their discourse that such a proposal would <be very offensive> may be productive of Consequences as fatal to the prosperity of the southern Colonies as a Peace with those Indians, would be serviceable to the Northern, even were we well assured, that they would become> as faithful Allies, as the southern <Indians now are, tho' that is> a great Uncertainty, we think that <we ought not to run so> great a risque, as we beleive we should were <we to communicate> to them the proposal of Peace from Nations <who have alwa>ys been odious to them, & who they believe would <not keep a> Peace were it made.

<5^{thly}.> We think that we ought not to affront those, that have always been our Friends, to oblige those who revolted from our Friendship & have been our professed Enemies, and perhaps after a Peace made & the southern Indians affronted, may immediately prove as treacherous, as they have been, and (by their harrassing our Frontiers, with scalping parties, while they pretend in another Colony to be desirous of & concluding a peace) we have reason to beleive now are.

6^{thly}. We had that Capt. Gist¹ the Deputy Superintendant of Indian Affairs in this district, sent for and brought in council, who assured us, that such a proposal, he beleived would not with safety, nor without the greatest danger of the Indians displeasure be communicated to them; and that if it should there is no Interpreter here, capable of doing it

7^{thly}. We are unwilling to let the Ohio Indians, as is desired, know the designs of the southern Indians, because the lives & safety of them, as well as many of our own officers and men,

¹ Christopher Gist, of Laurel Hill, Pa.

may in some measure perhaps depend on secrecy; And it is very probable that if they knew when and where these Indians were going, the French would at least, have one Friend among them who would not fail to give Intelligence, which might render <our schemes abortive.

8^{thly}. As many of the Chiefs of each Nation are not here & no > commissioners ap<pointed by their Council to make a Peace> they could not do it with<out returning home, which would be> a very great expence for nothing <on this Colony, and the Loss> of at least one Campaign's service <from them.>

9^{thly}. The officers present conceive, that they <are invested with no> power to conduct an affair of such delicacy <and of such> Importance; nor that they have a Right of mak<ing, or even> treating of, War or Peace with any Nation.

The Officers in Council for the above Reasons are unanimously of Opinion, that we ought not to acquaint the Cherokees with the Proposal; but that it be speedily communicated to the President of Virginia.

Signed

Tho^s. Bullitt
John Campbell
Mord. Buckner
Nath^l. Thomson
Ch^s. Smith
James Roy

A true Copy signed

RICHARD PETERS Sec^{ry}

INDORSED: Copy 30th March 1758
Proceedings of a Council of Officers
held at Fort Loudoun in Virginia
respecting a Proposal of Peace
Offered by Teedyuscung and other
Delaware Indians to the Cherokees

THOMAS BULLIT TO WILLIAM DENNY

*Contemporary Copy.*¹*Fort Loudoun March 31st. 1758*<HON^{BLE} SIR

On Receipt of yours of the 25th Inst. I held a Council > Copy whereof² I have <inclosed, by which you will see the> Reasons for not attempting <a Negotiation of Peace between> the Northern & Southern Ind<ians, or without consulting> higher Powers on the Occasion.

I have dispatch'd an Express <to Williamsburg> with your Letters, where Colo; Washing<ton³ is, and> can immediately have the Resolve of the Council <on the> Affair; as to my attempting, in the Interim, such <Negoti>ations as Teedy-uscung proposed by the Resolve of my Council, cannot justifiably do it, and for the Reasons by them offer'd, also divers others I could Enumerate. You will see the Dangers at Present, of such a thing, and Provided we were, there cou'd be little done, as the Chiefs of their Nations, are not yet arrived; neither have We here an Interpreter that can be understood, and attempting to speake on the Subject to those Young Men sent from the Nations to Revenge the Injuries done Us and them by Our Enemys, might be Understood and be a means of Calling in all those Parties We have sent out; this would be much to Our Prejudice, as the Enemy are on Our Frontiers, committing the cruellest of

¹ Inclosed in Denny to Abercromby, April 7, 1758, *q. v.* and Abercromby to Johnson, April 10, 1758.

² Proceedings of Council of Officers, March 30, 1758, *q. v.*

³ March 4, 1758, Washington, writing to Colonel Stanwix from Mount Vernon, announced that he would set out the next day "for Williamsburg to receive the advice of the best physicians there." He expressed an inclination to yield his command. He returned to Fort Loudoun about the 1st of April.—Sparks, *Writings of George Washington*, 2:274-75.

Hostilities. I must also think such a Step, at this Juncture, would raise a jealousy amongst them, as they are displeased at Our not having proper Necessaries here to furnish them on their Arrival, which was their Expectation. (and <I believe promised them) I say in all probability such a Proposal to those Indians at this time might be attended, with the Consequences> of confirming <them in an Opinion, that We had> made Peace with their <Enemies, have no fur>ther Service for them, and in consequence <thereof, did> not get the Supplies promised them for carrying <on the> War We engaged them in, for said Reasons must <think> it too nice an affair at present to attempt.

The Number of Indians here is about four Hundrd^d. also considerable Partys on their Way and Expected from the Southern Nations, Number uncertain, tho immagin'd not Less than One Thousand, above Twelve days since three Hundred of the Cherokees have been equipp'd and sent out against the Enemy The last Accounts I had from them, they had discover'd a Party of them, and intend, as soon as they had assembled a Sufficient Body to attack them, and make no doubt they'll Shortly give Us a Good Account thereof; as to any further Descents they may make cannot inform You.

As the Success of Our Arms in this Quarter, will, in a great Measure, depend on the Supporting and Spiriting up Our Friend Indians, have taken this Opportunity to acquaint You of the present & great Want here of some Light Fire Arms, suitable for Indians, also Matchcoats there being no such thing here nor can be conveniently got, so that the late Partys, to the amount of about one Hundred Indians, cannot be equipp'd, and appear very Uneasy at Our haveing not Supplies to give them especially the <particulars mentioned. This I acquaint You of: making no doubt, if Your Province have these Things, in Store (as a Speedy Supply will greatly redound> to the Good of <the Service) they will send them, which> be enabling the Agent,

<to keep them in Obedience to Us.> I conclude, doing my Self
the <Honour to Subscribe.>

Your <most Obedient> Humble <Servant,>
Thom^s. <Bullit>

A True Copy

RICHARD PETERS

Secretary

To Governor Denny

INDORSED:

Copy 31 March 1758

Letter to Govern^r. Denny from Cap
Tho^s. Bullitt, Command^g officer at Fort
Loudoun in Virginia enclosing Proceed-
ings of a Council of Officers held at s^d.
Fort 30th. March 1758 respecting a Pro-
posal of Peace offerd by Teedyuscung
and other Delaware Indians, to the
Cherokees.

TO JAMES DELANCEY

A. Df. S.

<Fort Johnson March 1758

SIR

the Commission as Collo. of y^e.> Militia wh<ich you
returned me, I received and on your> requisition together with
Lord <Loudoun, & M. Gen^l. Abercrom>bie's desire to the
same <purpose,> I resolved, and was willing <to do all the>
Service I could in that Station, <but I have been> so much
harrassed these three years past, <& now again> so soon
<after my> late, & Severe Illness that it has impaired my
<health> to that Degree that I doubt I shall never be able to
endure much fatiuge, therefore <I> hope you will appoint
another to the Command of the Regiment, who has better health,
& Abilities, for nothing could mortifie me more than having a

Command I could not thoroughly execute. I must acquaint you that whoever succeeds me <will> find the want of the Articles of War being established a great prejudice to the Service, as well as that of a good Adjutant.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Inclosed is a return of the Number of the Troops, & different Corps who marched with, & Joined me at the German Flatts on the late alarm. I have within these three days received acc^{ts}. of the Enemy's approach towards the German Flatts with a considerable Body of French & Indians, with Snow Shoes, w^h. we have none of, and I only wait for further, & certain Intelligence to March <with what few Militia are left here, & Indians to make Head against them if I am able. An Advanced Party of the Enemy have killed, & Scalped two Germans the North side of the River within a Mile of the little Falls two days ago.

The Inhabitants > of this River are <moeving away verry fast, notwithstanding I have taken a great deal <of pains to quiet their> Minds, & prevent their flying. I fear <unless this part of the> Country be protected by a good Body <of Troops and proper Rangers> verry soon, it will be intirely depopulated.

I am Sir

Y^r. Most

Obed^t. Humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

To LIEUT. GOV^R. DELANCEY

FROM GUY JOHNSON

A. L. S.

<Tygers at Stonerabia April 2^d 1758

DEAR SIR >

Upon Cap^t. <Dunn's leaving this (who I> presume you have seen) I <marched yesterday according> to your Orders to

Fort Snell, <where Mr Snell informed> me he could no longer subsist any <Soldiers, that he had> several quartered upon his House this <Winter for which> he was not yet reimbursed, and feared he <should not,> and that he and his Neighbours in that part <of the> Settlement had no longer provision for them, <having> scarcely sufficient for their own families; Whereupon, I was under a necessity to march them back to their old Quarters until I should be favoured with your farther orders; at the same time I ordered my Men to be ready immediately upon my Alarm, to repair to Keisars Stone House, which is the only strong place near their present Quarters. The People here are very uneasy at the scituation they are soon likely to be left in, and are of opinion they shall be obliged to forsake the Settlements entirely in the Summer, unless some little Work be erected for their protection with a proper Garrison; in which case they can't supply the Troops with provisions, so that they would require a Commissary with stores, as at the other posts; they add (perhaps with reason) that notwithstanding any expedition which we may undertake, the French will employ great part of their Indians this Way, which in the End will occasion the <whole Settlements of this River to be deserted. Cap^t. Ogden is not yet arrived, and you can't imagine how disagreeably I spend my time here, having not one single person to converse with.> I should be Glad on <the Bearer's return to> be honoured with a Line in order <to know what far>ther steps I should take, or whether <I have your> approbation for those already taken.

I am, Sir,

With all imaginable respect

Your most Obliged

Humble Servant

GUY JOHNSON

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

<P. S: I could> not get a horse <that> Day upon the Road, but have the one which I rode up, in a good Stable where

he is taken proper care of, & shall send him down the first opportunity. I write to Lt. Claus by the bearer; It is the Common report here that Coll^l. Monroe is alive in England, and that 'tis by his Mean's Webb goes home. The bearer, a young Tyger is gone to take your advice concerning Mr. Wendles proposals, & the Extraordinary orders, which he will Shew you.

INDORSED: April 2^d. 1758

Lieu^t. Guy Johnson's Letter

JAMES BURD TO WILLIAM DENNY

Contemporary Copy.

<Lancaster 3rd April 1758.

SIR>

Mr. Daniel <Bush came to this Town this Evening> from Winchester, who gives me <the following Account of the> Indians there, which I could not omit <transmitting to Your> Honour Viz^t.

Mr. Bush says he left Winchester on Sat<urday last> and that there were three hundred Indians arrived there, <who> came in by twentys and thirty Viz^t.

51 Catawbas 250 Cherokees and that of these, 16, 24 and 60 are gone to War to Fort DuQuesne, and that there were 100 more just fixed out to go that Day, and that the rest only waits to be furnished out, which will be done in a few Days.

That there is certainly expected
200 Cherokees in one Body very Soon, and by the Middle of this Month 400 Creeks and there are
600 more Cherokees and
600 Creeks more, when their Corn is hilled up which will done by the first of May.

It will take the Creeks about forty Days travelling, it being 1100 Miles Distance & the Cherokees 30 Days to come, being between 6 & 700 Miles Distance.

Cap^t. Christopher Gues furnishes out all those Nations And is to be repaid the Expence on the Cherokees by the <Colony of Virginia, but the Charge on the Creeks is to be at the Expence of the Crown, according to the Engagem> of Lord Loudoun <I remain Your Hon^{rs}.> Most Obed<ient Serv^t.>

James Bu<rd.>

To the Hon^{ble}. W^m. <Den>ny, Esq^r.

A True Copy

RICHARD PETERS

Secretary

INDORSED: Copy 3rd. April 1758

Letter to Governor Denny from L^t.
Col. Burd giving an Account of 300
Indians at Winchester & of a much
greater Number soon Expected

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY ¹

Extract of a Letter from Major General Abercromby to S^r. William Johnson, Barr^t. Dated, New York, April 4th. 1758.—

By the enclosed Copy of a Conference between the Governor of Pennsylvania and Teedyuscung, & Mr. Denny's Letter to me of the 24th. of March, You will perceive that the Delawares, & several of those Tribes of Indians, that made incursions on the Southern Provinces, are turning fast on Our Side, and that some of the Twightwee Tribes, & of the far Nations over the Lakes, are of the Same Mind. You will likewise see that His, (Mr. Denny's) Assembly, have advised him in Pretty warm Terms, to invite some of the Chiefs of these Indians to their City, in Order to confirm them in their Friendship, which he very justly declined, for the Reasons given in the said Letter, and further

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. In a letter of Abercromby to William Pitt, May 24, 1758.

desired my Directions therein; My Answer to him was, that as you was Commission'd by His Majesty, to manage and Superintend all Affairs with the Northern Indians, exclusive of any other Person whatsoever, I therefore shou'd transmit these Papers to you for Your Consideration, and press you to send an immediate Answer thereto, which I must beg of you to do by the earliest Opportunity.

I must at the same Time observe to You, that His Majesty having directed me to appoint, Brig^r. Forbes to the Command of the Troops to be employ'd to the Southward, I have, in Consequence of my Instructions, appointed the said Brig^r. Forbes to that Cominand, & have wrote a Circular Letter to the Southern Governors, solely to correspond with him in all Matters concerning that Department; pursuant to which, and in Order to give him all the Lights I possibly cou'd to enable him to carry the same into Execution, I communicated to him Mr. Denny's Letter, from whence, not being so well acquainted with the little Dependance to be had on these Tribes, he was for closing with the Advice of the Assembly, but upon representing to him the bad Consequences, that might result from so hasty a Step, he waved his Opinion, yet is very desirous that you shou'd send Mr. Croghan to a Meeting with these Indians; If you think his Coming might be attended with any Success and that you can possible spare him, I shou'd be glad you wou'd send him without Delay, & give him such Instructions As you shall see Necessary, or upon Failure of Mr. Croghan, any other Person you shall think equal to the Task.

(signed) James Abercromby —

INDORSED: Extract of a Letter from Maj^r.

Gen. Abercromby to Sr. William

Johnson. Dated New York —

April 4th. 1758.—

in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758

WILLIAM DENNY TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Contemporary Copy*¹<Philadelphia, April 7th. 1758

SIR

I omitted to inform your Excellency, that> Teedyuscung <insisting that a Messenger should be> dispatched to Virgin<ia with an Account of the Conferences,> to be communicated to the <Cherokees. I cou'd not avoid> sending off an Express with <a Letter to the Commanding> Officer at Winchester;² a Copy of which <I do myself the> Honour to transmitt to You, with the Ans<wer from Colo.> Bullet,³ who succeeds Col^o. Washington. You <will please> to observe with what precaution, I expressed my<self in> my Letter, and as it is an Affair of the utmost Consequence, I earnestly desire Sr. William Johnson <may> be made acquainted with it, and give Your Ex<cellency> His Opinion of what is proper to be done.

I likewise enclose You a Copy of a Letter sent to <Mr.> Burd, L^t. Colonel of our Second Battalion of Provincials from Cap^t. Orndt,⁴ who is stationed at Fort Allen, the Place where the Susquahannah Indians are by Treaty obliged first to come to, when they arrive on Our Frontiers. By that Letter You will observe, that Numbers of Indians are expected in this Province every Day & as they are fond of Treaties, and Teedyuscung will do nothing, but in the most popular and publick Manner, I desire particular Instructions how to conduct my self on this Occasion. I am, &ca

W^m. Denny

GENERAL ABERCROMBY.

Copy

¹ Inclosed in Abercromby to Johnson, April 10, 1758, q. v.² Denny to Washington, March 25, 1758, q. v.³ Bullit to Denny, March 31, 1758, q. v.⁴ Orndt to Burd, March 29, 1758, q. v.

FROM RIVER INDIANS

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 94, by a speech delivered to Johnson by River Indians, April 10th. Destroyed by fire.

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.

<New York April 10th 1758

SIR

You will have seen by my Letter of the 4th> that several <Tribes of Indians to the Southward were> inclined to enter into <an Alliance with His Majesty> and to make War upon <His Enemies, the French;> Since that Letter, I have received <another from> Gov^r. Denny of the 7th. accompanying <sundry> Enclosures relative to the Same Purpose <Copies of> all which I herewith transmit You for Your Information, and beg I may have Your Op<inion> thereon without any Delay, as you will see by Mr. Denny's Letter that he is very pressing for the Same. In my answer to him of this Day, I inform him that I have sent You these Papers, and that untill such Time as we can hear from You, he shou'd temper with those People and keep them in Play without nevertheless coming to any Decision; Which I am in Hopes he will be able to do, as certainly, if they are sincere in their Professions of Friendship to us, it must prove of great Advantage to His Majesty's Service in the Operations of the ensuing Campaign, to have them on Our Side. I am, with great Regard,

Sir

Your most obedient, humble Servant

JAMES ABERCROMBY

S^R, WILLIAM JOHNSON, Bart.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

A. L. S.

<Fort Herkermir April 10th 1758

HONOURED SIR>

Sence I wrote you <Last a Scout of Six> Dutch Men Return^d. withoutt <Discovering any> Signe of an Enemy those I Imploy^d. <on Recept of> y^r. orders of y^e. Sixth till I Could gett <a good Scoutt> of Indians and whites, which I have Now <Sent outt> five Indians and three white Men they <are to go> a Days Journey beyond y^e. Carrying place <& I will> Prepair A Nother to Sett of on thire <Return.>

This Morning Came here Some Tusker<reras> from Suskehanna and Tells Me they Left oughgu<ago> Six Nights ago, and thet three Nights before <they> Sett of Thomas with Severall More Indians Sett of fer Phill^a. to Treatt with that government and that greatt Numbers of y^e. Indians from thet River and ohio would be in Philla. this Spring this I B'live to be True as itt Confirms whatt I have been Tould by y^e. Indian I mension^d. in My Last, all which I Shall acquaint you with att first Meeting, Itt may be fer y^e good of y^e. Service yett I think is od of that Govem^t to Call thos Indians to A Meeting y^e. begining of <A Campain without ferst Aquainting y^r. honour & the Commd^r. in Cheif.

I have Ingaged that> Indian I Mens<hond to you to go to Catereque> agreeable to y^r. Orders, Butt <he first goos home,> then Setts of withoutt any Delay <he is a Very> Sober honoust fellow and one that <may be> Depended on he is one of them that wth. <the Half> king & Coll. Washington tuck Lefouvre & 20 <More> prisners & kill^d. 11 the Same time¹ Just before <Washing>ton's Defeatt I shall show you

¹ The affair of May 28, 1754, at Great Meadows, in which Coulon de Jumonville and nine other Frenchmen were killed. For Washington's account of the occurrence, see Jared Sparks, *Writings of George Washington*, 2:25-26, 32-35, 38-39, 47-48.

y^e Instructions <I gave> him as Soon as I have y^e. honour of
Seeing <you> Till when I am with Greatt Esteem y^r. honours
Most obedient & Most Humble

Servant

GEO. CROGHAN

SIR WILL: JOHNSON Bar^t.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

On page 94 of the Johnson Calendar is a letter of April 12th from George Croghan, at Canajoharie, to Johnson, about an additional scout, preparation for journey to Pennsylvania, an Oneida war party and enlistments with Captain Johnson. Destroyed by fire.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY¹

Extract of a Letter from Sir William Johnson to
Major General Abercromby; Dated Fort Johnson,
April 13th. 1758.—

I shall endeavour all in my Power, to get as many Indians as I possibly can, to join His Majesty's Forces both this Way, and to the Southward, for which Purpose I shall send Mr. Croghan, as soon as he returns from the German Flatts to Philadelphia, (in the mean While I think Gov^r. Denny shou'd lose no Time, in sending Invitations to them Indians, who are inclined to Peace to come to Philadelphia) with proper Instructions & Directions, to assist and cooperate with Gov^r. Denny, in bringing about and settling a Peace with the Ohio & Western Indians, and try if he can't get a Number of them to join Brig^r. Gen. Forbes, and endeavour to persuade the Rest to lie still if possible; which (from the Steps I have lately taken) I am in Hopes he will be able to accomplish. The Cherokees will, I am positive, (by what they promised me last Fall when here,) join us heartily, if we do not by Neglect, or some Mismanagement overset the Good

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Inclosed in a letter of Abercromby to William Pitt.

Disposition they then were in, which I hope will be guarded against, & prevented, as their Alliance is in my Opinion a Matter of the Utmost Consequence, particularly to the Southern Governments, which I think shou'd not stick at any Thing now to engage them heartily. I have allowed the Indians of the Two Mohawk Castles to hunt to the Northward of the Mohawk River towards Canada for twenty Days: it will answer the End of Scouts for the Time they are out, as they are immediately to come and give me Notice, shou'd they make any Discovery of an Enemy. I shall lose no Time in sending Messages & Invitations to all the Nations in the Quarter to come and Join You when called upon. I will not answer to have them here before they are wanted for Action, or the Troops take the Field, as it wou'd be an immense Expence, & Trouble to keep them; besides, they are such an Odd Kind of People, that they never can stay long in one Place; if the proposed Meeting of Onondaga was over, I shou'd be able to form a Judgement, how and what Number wou'd act, as they will then determine what to do.

(sign'd) W^m. Johnson

INDORSED: Extract of a Letter from Sr. W^m.
Johnson to M. G. Abercromby
Dated April 13th: 1758.—
in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24' 1758
14.

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

L. S.¹

Fort Johnson 13 April 1758

SIR

I am favoured with yours of the 28th. March with the blanc Warrants which I immediately gave away. One of the Capt^{ns}. Warrants to L^t. Guy Johnson in the York Service, and the other

¹ Destroyed by fire.

to Cap^t. Peter Conin, they are both busy getting what Men they can, but there are Such a Number of Recruiting Officers along this River, for the Battoe Men, Rangers &^{ca}. that in short there are very few left, and when they are all taken away to their respective Companies, it will be destitute of Men except the old ones. But I am in hopes Genr^l. Abercrombie will have proper Care taken of this Part of the Country, as he knows it is well worth defending.

Cap^t. Johnson has as yet given out but one Warr^t. which is to Barent Vrooman of Schoharee Cap^t. Conin only one also, the other he appointed is almost dead with an Hemorage, so will be obliged to get another.—

Yours of the 8th. Curr^t.¹ I received yesterday and have this Day made out an Order for L^t. Colo. Glen, with the Assistance of the Rest of the Field Officers to have your Orders to me immediately put into Execution without Partiality. As I have my hands at present so full of Business that I scarce have a Moments Leisure, besides I am obliged to go from home to Morrow Morning up to the Flatts, where I shall be under a Necessity of remaining Some Days.

I am
Sir
&^{ca}.

W^m. JOHNSON

To L^t. GOVERNOUR DE LANCEY

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

A. L. S.

[Fort Herkimer, April 14, 1758]

This Moment [	]
More Sechem from Onieda [	]
with the following Intilegence [	]

¹ Not found.

Desier^d. Me to Write itt to you.

An Onieda Indian Named^d. [Jemmy?] A Rived three Days Ago att y^e. onieda Castle from Suskehanna and Says that all y^e. Dallaways and Shannas there was prepairing to go of to ohio, for this Rason that they Locht on themselves Neglected by y^e. Six Nations So Determ^d. to go where they Could hunt & Suport there famelys, in Consequence of which he y^e. Cagg & A Tuskerora Seechem with Some others is to Sett of in A fue Days to those Indians on Suskehanna to Speak to them and Takes ten belts of Wompum to Spake with in order to Stop them. tumorrer

[
he says [
[
[
] y^e. Nations, and the
] had hear he Says was
] this Notice.

I have had A good Dale of Conversation [
y^e. Cagg and My opinion is that y^e. Six Nations is Afread that y^e. Dalaways and Shannas wants to Settle A firm pace with y^e. English Independent of them which I Blive from what I Can Laurn is y^e. Intenciens of y^e. Later — I am with Great Esteem y^r. honours Most obeident

& M Humble Servant

GEO: CROGHAN

P. S: y^e. Cagg Returns

Tomorrow Morning — the Cagg Says they heard. A gun fier^d. Above Cano¹ this Evening About two houers up Sun which they Imagien to be an Enemy as there is No Indians Coming Down as they know of. I have given Notice to y^e. garri[son] & pople hear to be a Lert.

ADDRESSED: On his Majestys [
To
The Honourable
Sir William Johnson Bart.
att Fort Johnson

¹ Canajoharie.

TO JACOB GLEN

A document signed of April 14th from Johnson, addressed to Colonel Jacob Glen, written at Fort Johnson, was sold at the American Art Galleries April 21, 1910, in the E. B. Holden sale. A copy could not be obtained.

A REPORT TO JAMES ABERCROMBY¹

A Report of the Present State of His Majesty's Indian Interest Relative to the Six Nations, and the Indians of the Northern District, by Sr. William Johnson.—

I have Reason to believe that the Six Nations, and particularly the Upper ones, alarmed at the present interesting Situation of Affairs upon this Continent, have shook off that Inattention to their former Alliances and Connections with various Nations of Indians, (with which Neglect I have repeatedly and warmly reproached them) and in Consequence thereof, have for a considerable Time past, been diligently carrying on very extensive Negotiations. This I apprehend hath produced some System or Plan, by an Adherence to, or an Execution of, which, they propose rendering themselves too formidable to dread either any ill Consequences to them, or their Allies, from a Neutral System, if they are detirmined to abide by that; or to give such a Weight, to whichever Side they may declare, and act on, as not to fear the Other.— And this, I apprehend, Sir, is the grand Point to be debated and detirmined on in the Present Congress at Onondaga, the Result of which may be very important, both to us and the French in the present War upon this Continent.—

I am promised to have what passes at this great Meeting, and the Detirminations thereupon, made known to me when it breaks up; Till which Time I look upon his Majesty's Indian Interest to be in a State of Suspence.

I have alrely Transmitted You some Private Intelligence I

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Inclosed in a letter of Abercromby to William Pitt, May 24, 1758. Written evidently before April 26th.

have received, relative to this Meeting, and if that is to be depended on, We may hope very favorable Things from the Indians. In such Case I am inclined to believe a considerable Body of Indians will act against the French upon their own Plan in a separate Body, and in another Part from Our Army; However I question not but I may then be able to bring or send into the Field between 4 & 500. Indians.—

Shou'd the System proposed at Onondaga be a Neutrality, I apprehend some of Our more Neighbouring Nations will not fall into it, and that I may even then be able to muster near 300. to join His Majesty's Arms towards Canada by Way of Lake George.—

But shou'd the Indians at this Congress unfortunately determine to join the French against us; I cannot take upon me to say, how extensive it's Influence may reach, or what Numbers in such Case wou'd adhere to us.—

INDORSED: Report of the Present State of
his Majesty's Indian Interest,
relative to the Six Nations & the
Indians of the Northern District;
by Sr. William Johnson.—
in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24.
1758.
25.—

INVITATION TO ONONDAGA CONGRESS

*Contemporary Copy.*¹

Fort Johnson 26th. April 1758—

Arrived Canaghquayeson & Nicolasa two Onieda Chiefs
and acquainted Sir William that they were sent Express by

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. In a letter of Abercromby to William Pitt, May 24th.

the 6 Nations and desired a hearing, when Accordingly they were called.

Prest,

Sir William Johnson Bart.

George Croghan Esq^r.

Lieu^t Claas Dep^t. Sect^y.

Jacobus Clement Interpreter

Canaghquayeson spoke & said Brother,

We came here to let you know, in the Name of our Confederacy that they are now ready to hold the Meeting at Onondaga so long proposed and now it is for certain to take Place, within 12 Days hence.—We therefore were sent Express to invite you, and your Brethern the Mohocks to it whom we beg you will acquaint thereof; We have in our Passing Connojahary acquainted that Castle with our Message & given them an Invitation. We can assure you that the Road is now clear and every Obstacle removed from it, wherefore we hope you will not make any Delay, but set out as soon as Possible, as we expect before we can reach Onondaga the rest of the Nations will be Assembled there the Mohocks Connojaharys and several Nations from Susquahanna River, are to rendezvous at Onieda within 9 Days when we are to join them & march in a Body to Onondaga.

Gave a Belt

Fort Johnson 28th. April

Sir William Johnsons Answer to the invitation
of the 6 Nations Deliverd him the 26th. Instant

Bretheren

I have considered the Invitation you made me two Days ago in the Name of the 6 Nations desiring I would attend the approaching Meeting at Onondaga, and as I hope they would not have given me this Invitation, unless their Resolutions were such as will be favorable to the honour and Interest of the great King of England my Master, and your Father.—under these Expectations I do accept of your Invitations will give my timely Attend-

ance and Acquaint the Mohocks of this Castle with it, that they may accompany me.

A true Copy from the Original Minutes examined by me

PETER WRAXALL

Secr^y. Indian Affairs

Copy

INDORSED: Copy

Invitation of the 6 Nations
to Sr. W^m. Johnson to Attend
the Congress at Onondaga
Enclosed in Sr. W^{ms}. of y^e 28th. April 1758.
N^o. 2.
in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24.
1758
23.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Df. S.*¹

<Fort Johnson 28 April 1758

SIR

I am honoured with Your favours of the 4 & 10 Inst. inclosing me sundry Papers transmitted> You by <Gov^r. Denny² relative> to the Indian Nego<tations carrying on> in that Province. All wh<ich I have> carefully perused & maturely <considered.>

I propose to confine <my self> in this Letter to these Affairs only, <& give> my Answer to other Subjects cont<ained> in your favours before me, in a <seperate> One.

I think it previously necessary to give you some Account of this *Tediscung* or King Tediuscung as he is called in the Pensilvania Proceedings, & who seems to carry the absolute Lead in all their Negotiations.

¹ In handwriting of Wraxall. This letter was inclosed in Abercromby to Pitt, May 24, 1758.

² Denny to Abercromby, April 7, 1758. *q. v.*

Tediuscung is by birth a Delaware Indian. before the present War broke out he lived at or near *Wyoming* with some other Indians of his Tribe. After General Braddocks Defeat he retired wth several other Delaware & River Ind^s to Diahogo. after this he went to Niagra & took up the ax from the French & was one of the Chiefs <who headed & perpetrated the well known Desolations on the Frontier of Maryland and Pensilvania. By various Negotiations with the Six Nations he was> at length prevailed <on to drop the> Ax against the English, & at <subsequent> Treaties held in the Province <of Pensil>vania, he entered into a realliance <&> Friendship with us.

Tediuscung tho no Indian King in the proper Sense of that Word, is a Chief Man & considered as such amongst the Delawares, Monseys, & Mohikander Indians, who are at present Settled on the Susquahanna & some of its Branches.

The Party spirit w^{ch}. has & continues so signally to display itself in Pensilvania, hath supported this Mans consequence amongst those Indians. he has been courted by both sides & all their Negotiations seem to have centered with him only. This Conduct under our late Circumstances with relation to those Indians, may perhaps be justified, but should our Indian Affairs take a more favourable turn, it will not <in my humble Opinion, be adviseable to give Tediuscung this exclusive Distinction in publick Treaties & Negotiations, as it will tend to> give <umbrage to the other Indians> & build our Fabric upon <too narrow> & precarious a Foundation — <besides if I am> not mistaken, the Quakers have <fixt their> hold so firmly on Tediuscung, <that he> will do nothing without their Con<currence,> & whilst they interfere in Indian <Affairs,> the Gov^r. of Pensilvania has found <& will> find unsurmountable Impediments to his Negotiations.

Tediuscung makes so considerable a Figure on the Face of the Pensilvania Indian Proceedings w^{ch}. I have had the honour now to receive from you, and taken to himself such incredible Consequence & extensive Influence, as may have very ill Consequences if implicitly depended on.

What I have to say in the sequel of this Letter made it necessary first to introduce Tediung to Your Excellency & to throw in a few Observations upon his Character <in which I have been impartial & aimed at brevity.

I think it was sound Policy to cultivate a good Understanding & friendship with Tediung,> and that it will by <no means> be prudent or proper, to <disgust> him,— but while court is paid caution should not be forgot. Implicit Belief & Negotiations upon it w^{ch}. may Affect the whole System of our Indian affairs & this upon the Credit of one Man, would be a most imprudent Credulity. And I think Governor Denny, tho urged by His Assembly to plunge at once into those extensive & important Negotiations w^{ch}. Tediung opened in the Conferences, acted a much wiser part, to take time first to look round him & apply to Your Excellency before he advanced too far.

Tediung's Speech to the Gov^r. of the 15 March, seems to me throughout the whole of it to betray an excess of Vanity, & a head made giddy by the Complaisance & Courtship which has been paid to him. he speaks of himself in a <Stile of Consequence which I am fully convinced belongs to no single Indian upon the Continent, and even more ridiculous in him to assume than in many> others. he tells the <Gov^r. that all the> Nations *from the Sunrise* <to those beyond> *the Lakes as far as the Sun*<setts have> sent Messages to him & constituted <him> their Plenipo.

The Indian manner of speaking <is> indeed sometimes strongly figurative, <but> this is a Rant beyond what I have <ever> met with.

he tells the Gov^r. he speaks <&> produces a Belt in behalf of 18 Nations. 6 of these are the 6 Nations, who nationally considered have not I am well assured given him any kind of Delegation. he mentions some whom I never heard of & tho I have now Indians of many nations at my House & white People who know great numbers of Nations, they are utterly Ignorant of these. Others he mentions particularly the Cognowagas whom

I am almost confident, dont know there is such a Man in the World as Tediuscung.

<In short the Man seems to me inebriated with the Notice that has been taken of him at Philadelphia. from my own Experience I well know that the Modesty & good Sense of an> Indian <is not proof against a> great weight of Favour & Courtship.

I will now lay before Your Excellency my Idea of what is real & may be Fact in all this Extravagance of Tediuscung.

The Delawares who live in the Neighbourhood of Fort Du Quesne have had many Messages from the Six Nations exhorting them to forbear Hostilities against the English, Tediuscung also promised to send to them & I suppose he has done it. The French probably have been scarce of goods & Provisions. These Causes have operated, & those Indians finding Tediuscung had made his Peace with the English are now willing to do the same & have sent Messengers with a Belt of Wampum to Tediuscung to pave the way to their being readmitted to our Alliance & friendship. These Indians I believe are the only <ones who will send Deputies to Negotiate Peace with Pensilvania, and when they come I am of Opinion they should meet with a favourable Reception, but at the same> time I think the Gov^r. <of Pensilvania> should insist on they & their <Families leaving> their present places of abode & <returning> to their Antient Settlement of Wy<oming & Shamokin> where proper Provision must be promised & made <for> them & their Families.

Another Article I apprehend ought <to> be mentioned as a preliminary, that they deliver up all our People whom they have got & hold in Slavery, & this Point I doubt not Gov^r. Denny will again repeat to Tediuscung, as it was promised to me here by the Delawares, & I think if they are sincere in their Declarations this Point must consequentially follow.

The Delaware Nation consist of many Tribes; if Nation be put for Tribe it may mislead.

Mr. Croghan is & will daily be more & more necessary to me.

he tells me there is a very good Interpreter one <Mr. Magee who lives at Donnegal & understands the Language and is well acquainted both with the Delaware & Shawanese whom Gov^r. Denny may send for to employ.

When & where Your Excellency would have these Indians assembled to join his Majestys > Forces & aid His Arms against <the Enemy,> you will please to Answer <him.> I would only beg leave to observe <to> you, that the Twightwees, Jenundadas <&> Delaware Indians are not by my Information in a good Understanding with the Cherokees, Cattawbas & Creeks, & therefore as those Indians if they are properly supported will I doubt not continue their aid against the French on the Ohio I apprehend Brig^r. Gen^l. Forbes will have in them a suff^t. body of Indians for his Assistance. great care must be taken not to join any Nations of Indians with them, who may by such Junction occasion Intestine Broils & Feuds, whereby the whole Indian assistance will be overset; and great care must likewise be taken that the Southern Gov^{ts}. <do not disgust or damp the present ardor & attachment of the Southern Indians by an ill timed Parsimony. At any rate, if we value their assistance> as essential to our <Success, it must> be supported by a fixt <& not a pre>carious Fund.

The Council of officers <held at Fort> Loudoun¹ you will have seen were <of> the same Opinion with me, as to <the> propriety of communicating Tedi<uscungs> Proposals of Peace to the Cherokees & Southern Indians, & I am convinced they judged perfectly right. I think they ought not even to know of any of our Negotiations with the Delawares, Twightwees &c if it can be concealed from them.

Upon this Occasion I must beg leave to repeat to your Excellency what I have formerly mentioned to the Earl of Loudoun. That there are in Pensilvania some Busy Intriguing Spirits who are for pushing that Gov^t. into a wide Scene of Indian Mannag^t.

¹ Proceedings of Council of Officers, March 30, 1758, q. v.

I might guess at their Motives, but I shall not take up your time with the Detail at present. I only beg leave <to add that it seems to me to be the remains of the old Provincial Spirit, When Province counteracted Province in Indian Affairs, consulted their own private> System without any <regard> to one general Plan, & <thus> confused & weakened His Majestys <Indi>an Interest. I would wish Gov^r. Denny to be warned against these Wiles. I am not Jealous Sir of Incroachments upon my Department, whoever or whatever set of Men I think can advance the common good in Indian Affairs I would readily embrace & assist — but Matters stand upon a Delicate & ticklish Bottom & if the Indians find we pull different ways, we shall over-set what hopes are yet to be entertained. Let Pensilvania go on & negotiate Peace with the Delawares, Mohikanders & Monseys but I would not wish them to enter into extensive Negotiations, there are Dependancies & <Conexions w^{ch} I have great reason to think they are not sufficiently informed of & without which they will be apt to plunge into Confusion, & do Mischief where they perhaps hope> to do good.

Herewith I <send Your Excellency> an Extract from a Message <brought me> by two Seneca Warriours¹ from <the> Cheif Sachems of that Nation. <hence> it appears that many of the <Western> Nations are disgusted with the French. they desired & held a Meeting with <the> Senecas at a place on the S. East of Lake Errie. What past there is not yet made public. The Six Nations are Summoned to a grand Meeting at Onondaga, where all that past at Lake Errie is to be laid before them, & by what I can learn from some Indians, a considerable Revolution in their political System is expected to take place & which will be very advantageous to us. I suppose Tediuncung has heard something of this, which gave him <the handle to puff as he has done & w^{ch}. I suspect was premature & indiscreet. not with Tediuncung but with the Great

¹A Seneca to Johnson, March 25, 1758, q. v.

Council at Onondaga any Proposals of the > Western Nations are <to be> heard & resolved upon, & at that Council Tediucung would be looked upon as a very inconsiderable Person & his Nation be obliged to submit to their Determinations or be speedily exterminated by the Six Nations & their Allies, who if once they come to be of one Mind would soon strike Terror thro all the Indians upon the Cont. & if they should turn against the French in earnest will be no inconsiderable thorn in their side.

I have interrupted you Sir, with a long Letter, but I thought the Subject called upon me to be some what Explicit & I have abridged as much as I consistently could.

I have the honour to be
with unfeigned Esteem

Your Excellencys
Most obed^t. & most faithful
humble Serv^t.

W^m. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

MAJOR GEN^L. ABERCROMBY

INDORSED: [] 28th 17[]
[] er^l. Abercrombie

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Contemporary Copy*¹

Fort Johnson 28th. April 1758

SIR

Two Days ago I receivd a Belt of Wampum from the upper Nations with an invitation to me and the lower Mohawk Castle to attend the Approaching Congress at Onondaga, a Copy of which Message and my Answer to it I herewith transmit your Excellency.

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Inclosed in a letter of Abercromby to William Pitt, May 24, 1758.

By the Intelligence I have receivd (a Copy of which I send you with my other Letter of this Date) there is I think great Reason to believe this Congress at Onondaga will be of very great Importance and I hope productive of Events which may be highly favourable to His Majestys Service and the Interest of these Colonies.

I persuade myself the Indians would not have given me this Invitation unless they were convinced that the Subject Matters to be there discussed would be agreeable to me.

The time for the Meeting you will see, Sir, is very Short, and I was obliged to give my Answer immediately. as I judged it for the good of his Majestys Service, to give my Attendance, I have accepted the Invitation, and propose to set off in a few Days.

As to the proposal of the Indians, for Opening and reestablishing a Trade in the Country of the Six Nations, it is undoubtedly an Application not to be rejected, at the same Time it is an Affair of that Importance as to merit a very serious Consideration before it is set on Foot. At My Lord Loudouns Desire I deliverd the Sketch of a *Plan*, in Case the Trade at Oswego should be reestablished. A Copy of this I have some where amongst my Papers but I wish you would ask my Lord for a Copy of that I gave him that you may give it a Reading and Consider it.

I suppose this Subject will be one amongst others, which will be opened at Onondaga, to which I shall give such an Answer as will leave a Reserve for your Directions and Opinion. Trade is the principal hinge upon which the Encrease and Entension of His Majestys Indian Interest must turn. at All times it will require a very observant Eye. In the Present Conjuncture of Affairs, it is a Point that requires to be very delicately touched. A Blunt refusal would be fatal. Conditional Promises I apprehend will at Present be the most adviseable Medium. I am by no Means for pushing an open unrestrained Trade with the Indians, untill they have given incontestible Proofs that the Effets of that Trade will not be made use of against us.

Thus, Sir, I must leave this important Subject untill the result of this Meeting at Onondaga throws more Light upon it, when I will give you my further Sentiments thereon.—

Cap^t. Wraxall is with me, and I shall detain him as little as I possibly can from the Duties of his Militar Station, tho' I could wish some Satisfactory Expedient could be fallen on that he might be wholly with me in his Department of Secretary for Indian Affairs, as a Variety of Inconveniences and Obstructions do, and must arise to his Majesty's Service as well as to himself by these two Departments clashing and obstructing each other.

In my Letter of the 13th. Ins^t. I answered Your Excellency upon my collecting as large a Body of Indians as I possibly can, to Aid His Majestys Arms, in making an Irruption into Canada.— I shall have this Matter constantly before me, and prosecute it to the utmost of My Power, at the approaching Meeting at onondaga, which will give me a lucky Opportunity of pushing that Point.

It is possible our Indian Affairs may speedily wear a more favourable Aspect, when it will be Absolutely necessary that I be supplied with a Store of Proper Indian Arms, Guns, Pistols, and Cutlasses, at all Events, I shall want a Number of them, and where to get them I know not. I formerly gave into my Lord Loudoun a List of these, and a Proper Assortment of other Goods, for the Indians, which his Lordship promised to write for to England, which would save the Crown a great sum of Money, for the Prices here are extravagantly high.

I have heard nothing of this Affair since

I have a great many Guns by me, which are useless for want of repair, and Many daily returned me which want Mending. Could your Excellency order a Gun Smith and Tools hither, I am very much distressed for want of one, and it would save a great deal of Money.

I am obliged to your Excellency for promising to grant me a Warrant for my three Years Salary, I am in want of it — My Commission from Gen^l. Braddock bears Date the 15th. of April

1755 which to the 15th. Ins^t. amounts to £1800 Ster^{lg}. You will see in my other Letter of this Date that I have hinted at the Confusion which may arise in Indian Affairs by the Party Spirit which rages in Pennsylvania being introduced in Indian Negotiations.

I am well informed the Quakers have a very considerable private Fund of their own for treating with the Indians, that they hold private and separate Meetings with them, and are pushing a System of their own, which none but themselves know the Bottom of; this I apprehend is in itself flagrantly illegal, and will I am convinced, not only confound, but prehaps render ineffectual, what the Gov^r. and his Council may Plan and propose, and whilst Indian Affairs are thus subjected to Party Views and Opposition, your Excellency may easily foresee the fatal Consequences which may result from it, if they Draw into their Circle, and as both Parties seem desirous of Doing, any extensive Indian Negotiations, Matters being thus circumstanced, I can see little Advantage which would arise from my sending Mr. Croghan or any other Person thither.

What extraordinary Steps the Quakers have taken, a Paper I transmitted you last Winter,¹ to send my Lord Loudoun, very evidently shows, and I think it of so interesting a Nature that least it should have escaped your Memory, I will herewith send you another Copy. how far such Messages & Declarations may tend to Obstruct His Majestys Service and fataly wound the Success of his Arms, I humbly submit to your judgment, but at the same Time, I must beg Leave to Declare to you that if these Sort of Negotiations, with the 6 Nations are permitted with Impunity to be privately carried on without my Knowledge or Concurrance, I cannot answer for the consequences, nor carry on that Service which His Majesty hath been pleased to commit to my Care and Attention.

The Affair appears to me in a Light of the utmost Moment,

¹ Indian and Quaker Intelligence, January 29, 1758, *q. v.*

especially at this Juncture, and I thought it my indispensable Duty to lay it before your Excellency, His Majesty's Commander in Chief, as I conceive it comes with great Propriety within the Reach of your immediate Power, for I am sensible Governor Denny is by far too weak to give any effectual Check or Control to these Interferings of the Quakers

I am with the greatest respect

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant

Wm. Johnson

To His Excellency

MAJOR GENERAL ABERCROMBY &C &C^A.

Copy

INDORSED: Copy

Letter from Sr. W^m. Johnson

to M. G. Abercromby N^e. 2:

28th April 1758—

in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24:

1758

22.

TO WILLIAM KELLY

A. Df. S.

[*Fort Johnson, April 30, 1758*]

[
I would not have [] belive I can get
them at [] least you sho[]
gartering, you had better defer buying them []
Wade returns there, who is now a judge of those []
which will please Indians.

I have heard [] is a Sloop arrived at Albany
which has something [] Me on Board.

If you can buy me [] 30 thousand of the largest black Wampum [] there, at 3^s ♂ C^t., and 10 thousand White D^o. to Match [] in Size, at 2^s ♂ C^t. the Common price, I should be glad [] Would Send them up ♂ first good opertunity. I hear Mr. Earnest a german liveing there has a great quantity lying on Hand.

I am much Hurried prepareing for a Journey to Onondaga, Where the greatest Council [] ever was among the Indians is verry soon to be Held at which they all beg I would be present. I have great hopes it will be productive of something verry much to our Interest, notwithstanding all that has been bitterly thrown out agst. Indians, & Indⁿ. Management.

I am with Sincerity.

S^r.

Y^r. Welwisher & Humble

Servant

W^m. JOHNSON

To M^r. W^m. KELLY —

INDORSED: April 30th. 1758

Answer to M^r. Kellys

Letter ♂ Express

FROM OFFICER AT FORT HERKIMER

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 94, by a fragment of a letter of April 30th from the commanding officer at Herkimer on Indian outrages in the vicinity. See Appendix.

FROM JOHN BUTLER

A. L. S.¹

Fort Hendrick May 1

HONER^d SIR

Last Night came one Hendrick Clock here who made his Escape from thee Germean flats and Say that yisterday about five a Clock in the afternoon a large party of Indians atackt the

house on this Side the Fort and Says he beleves he is the only one that has made his escape as the Enemie was all round them he Saw Sevrll strive to get to the fort but ware all tacken he Saw about 90 or 100 men but by the Noyse he heard beleve they ware more I have Garret Van Slick & three Indians to go to the Flats this morning by whome I expectt the Porticalters.

I am Honer^d Sir your most

Dutyfull Servent

JOHN BUTLER

INDORSED: the Honerbl Sir William Johnson Ber^{tt}.

att

Fort Johnson

MOHEGAN TRIBE TO THE MOHAWKS

A. L. S.¹

May 8, 1758

To our Brethren of the Mohocks & Stockbride Tribes of Indians, Wee the Mohegan tribe of Indians haveing laid before us the agreeable resolution of Said Indians abiding firm by the old agreement made by their wise forefathers & to defend that tree of Shelter planted by Our father the King & our ancesters Do chearfully return our Brethren our minds, that wee are resolved to adhere & Stick Closs to S^d agreement and other covenants made by our forefathers & the English, and as our Brethren the Mohocks some of them intend us a visitt, wee shall be glad to wait on them at Mohegan, & then we shall be Determined what number will Join Gen^{ll} Johnson in this expedition; Some of our tribe are already gone under Cap^{tt} Brear,² wee heartily pray our

¹ Destroyed by fire. This message was sent in answer to one from the Stockbridge Indians, which was accompanied by a speech from Johnson, delivered to them on April 12th. See *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, 17:338-39.

² Brower.

brethren, & all that goe in Said Expedition may doe Justice against our Enemys for the Cruelties & barbarities committed upon our Brethren and freinds.. This is Signed by the Sechem in name of this Tribe at mohegan this 8th Day of may A D 1758

BENJAMIN UNCAS.

INDORSED: To the Sechem of the Mohocks &c from
the Mohegan Tribe 1758

FROM JOHN B. VANEPS ET AL.

The preceding is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 94-95, by five papers which have been destroyed by fire: a letter of May 18th from John B. Van Eps, at Schenectady, to Johnson on Captain G. Christie's order for wagons and boats; Major General James Abercromby's warrant to Abraham Mortier for payment of £1200 sterling to Johnson for the Indian service, dated, Albany, the 20th; a letter of June 12th from Joseph Tracy, at Norwich, to Johnson, asking the favor of a letter to the King in behalf of the Mohegans, whose controversy with Connecticut waits to be tried before the lords of trade; information, brought by Captain Jelles Fonda from Oneida, of a visit of Delawares and Shawanese to the Six Nations, the killing of four men cutting timber by Canestio Indians, the delivery of Johnson's message to the Five Nations and a French and Indian conference to be held at Chenussio, dated Fort Johnson, June 12th; and a letter of the 14th from Elias Hand, at Stone Arabia, reporting the disposition made of his forces and asking directions in view of a conflict of authority with Captain Bagley.

TO JELLES FONDA

D. S.¹

May 20, 1758

To JELLES FONDA Esqr.—

By virtue of a Power to me given by His Excellency Major General Abercromby Commander in Chief of all His Majestys Forces in North America &c.—I do hereby Authorise & direct

¹ In New York Historical Society, New York City. In handwriting of Guy Johnson excepting signature.

You, with all possible Diligence to raise & enlist One hundred able bodied Men to be employed as Rangers and well qualified to serve & act with the Indians in that Capacity, as His Majestys future Service during the present Campaign, may require, at the end of which they shall be entituled to their Discharge & receive during the time of their Service Two Shillings & Six pence New York Currency p day.

Given under my
hand & Seal at Albany
this Twentieth day
of May 1758.—

WM. JOHNSON

JAMES ABERCROMBY TO WILLIAM PITT

*L. S.*¹

Albany, May 24th. 1758 —

SIR,

As it is proper, that You shou'd be informed of the State of His Majesty's Indian Affairs, & that I have not yet been able to give you any Account of them, I shall now make this Letter the Sole Subject of them; and, that you may want for no Information on that Head, from Me, as far as the Same has come to my Knowledge, or lest I might, unwillingly, misrepresent them, I think it necessary to transmit You, Copies and Extracts of all such Letters as have passed between Sir William Johnson, Gov^r. Denny, & Me, upon this Occasion, together with the Informations & Intelligence accompanying the Same; From whence you will see, that Teedyuscung, the Chief of the Delawares, & several of those Tribes of Indians, who had made Incursions on the Frontiers of Pensylvania and Maryland, were turning fast on our Side; That some of the Twightwee Tribes, and of the far Nations over the Lakes, were of the same Mind; and, that they

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England.

were all desirous of joining His Majesty's Army against the French; previous to which, they proposed a Treaty of Peace, which the Assembly of Philadelphia, in Order that they might carry their projected & favorite Plan of Trade with them, the easier into Execution, wanted by all Means to draw the Governor in; but he very wisely rejected it, untill such Time as he cou'd have Sir William Johnson & my Opinion thereupon; & for that Purpose, transmitted to me Copy of the Minutes of the Conference between him and some of the Delawares, which I forwarded to Sir William, desiring him, if it was necessary, immediately to send Mr. Croghan, his Deputy, to Philadelphia, to treat with these People, in His Name, & further, that he wou'd let me have his Answer with all possible Dispatch; Meanwhile I wrote to Gov^r. Denny, acquainting him therewith, and advising him not to disgust those Indians, nor, at the same Time, to conclude any Thing with them, till we receive this Answer.—On the 13th. of April, Sr. William writ to me, that he shou'd send Mr. Croghan, so soon as he returned from the German Flatts, & that in the Interim, Gov^r. Denny shoud lose no Time in sending Invitations, to such of the Indians as were inclined to Peace, to come to Philadelphia.—As soon as this Letter came to my Hands, I sent an Extract of it to Brigadier General Forbes, for him to lay before Governor Denny; As I did likewise afterwards, Copy of Sr. William's first Letter of the 28th. of the same Month, containing the Opinion of Teedyuscung, and his Advice with Regard to the Measures necessary, and proper to be observed upon this Occasion; all which are so full and explicit, and appear so just to me, that I desired Brigadier Forbes to receive them for His Guidance; what has been done in this Affair Since, I know not, but I make no Doubt, you will learn it from the Brigadier Himself.

As by Sir William Johnson's second Letter of the 28th. of April, I found he was invited to attend an approaching Congress at Onondaga, which Congress he thought, there was great Reason to believe, wou'd be of very great Importance, and he hoped,

productive of Events which might be highly favourable to His Majesty's Service & the Interest of these Colonies, I waited to see the Result of this Meeting; but upon my Arrival here, having been informed, that the Enemy had made another Inroad at Herkmer's on the German Flatts, which had obliged Sir William (who was on his Road to Onondaga) to return; and it being necessary, that I shou'd see him, in Order to learn from Himself, how the Six Nations stood affected to His Majesty's Interest; how far they might be depended upon; & what Aid and Assistance we might Expect from them upon this Occasion; I accordingly wrote to him, to come down to me here, which he did; And upon my putting the foregoing Questions to him, and desiring a candid and impartial Report of the Present State of His Majesty's Indian Interest, relative to the Six Nations and the Indians of the Northern District, he deliver'd me the Enclosed Report, by which You will see, that untill the Congress of Onondaga broke up, he looks upon His Majesty's Indian Interest to be in a State of Suspence; And upon my asking Sir William, how much longer it wou'd continue assembled, he said, he believed, it might be some weeks.

Sir William Johnson being desirous, for the Security of the Mohawk River, to have a Company of Rangers, and having recommended, upon His Knowledge of them, one Hundred able bodied active young men every Way fit for that Service, and well acquainted with every Part of that Country, from their having been frequently out with the Militia, and ranged the Woods, I have agreed that he shou'd raise, and form them into a Company, upon the same Establishment, as His Majesty's other Rangers; but in Order not to put the Publick to any greater Expence, than is necessary, I have directed the four Officers, who were appointed by Lord Loudoun to the Command of four Indian Companies in 1756, and are on His Majesty's Pay, tho' not at present employ'd, by Reason of the Inactivity of the Indians, to be appointed to that Company; by which Means the Expence of it, will amount to no more than the bare Subsistence of the Men.—

And upon a Complaint, from Sir William, of the infinite Detriment arising to His Majesty's Indian Interest, from the Constant pernicious Practice of furnishing the Indians with Rum, notwithstanding the Provincial Penal Laws existing to the Contrary; And therefore desiring I wou'd interpose my Authority, I have accordingly published a Proclamation, and sent Orders to the different Posts on the Mohawk River, to seize and stave every Drop of it, that shou'd be attempted to be brought thither; from whence I hope soon to see this Nuisance removed.—

Having searched my Papers, and found the Plan for opening & re-establishing a Trade in the Country of the Six Nations, mentioned in Sr. William Johnson's Second Letter of the 28th. of April, I have order'd it to be transcribed, and you will receive a Copy of it herewith.—

I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient, &

most humble Servant

JAMES ABERCROMBY

The Right Hon^{ble}. WILLIAM PITT Esq^r.—

INDORSED: Albany May 24th: 1758.

Maj^r. Gen^l. Abercromby

R July 3^d:

Indian Affairs

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

*Contemporary Copy*¹

Extract from Mr. Croghan's Letter to Sir William Johnson dated from Aughquaga 11 June 1758.

"It will not be in my power to set off from here in less than 5 days, by reason of some speeches from Tediuscung — One is an Invitation for all these Indians & the 6 Nations to go to Pennsylvania, in the Governour's name — Another to tell them that the Cherokees were coming to cut them off, but that he had stopt them.—This Conduct appears to me as if done to prevent those Indians from joining The King's troops, & force them to that Government. This News has scattered a good many. I have been obliged to consent to stay till the return of two Messengers from Wioming where Tediuscung lives, or set off alone; as you know how soon Indians are alarmed at such News; however, at farthest I shall set off in 5 days, & am in hopes to have near 100 men with me, unless some Accident happens which I cannot foresee. I find many will want Guns. I thought proper to let you know it."

A true Extract

Examined by me

(Signed) PETER WRAXALL *Secretary*

INDORSED: Extract of a Letter from Mr.

Croghan to Sr. William Johnson.—
June 11th. 1758.—

Enclosed in Sr. William Johnson's of the
18th. June.—

in Mr. Appy's of July 2^d. 1758
10. 16

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Contemporary Copy*¹*Fort Johnson 18 June 1758.*

SIR,

This Evening I received Your Excellency's Favour of the 15th. instant.²

I shall join you at Lake George, with all the Indians I can muster, with the utmost Expedition in my power. I am now daily expecting the Return of the Indian Officers with those Indians they may be able to collect, when no avoidable delay shall keep me here one hour.

I am convinced from many Reasons that the Indians would not be satisfied to join our Arms, unless I was to be with them, more especially as I have made known to, & promised them, that I was to go with them, I would otherwise readily accept of Your Excellency's Dispensing with my commanding the Indians in Person, as I might perhaps be more significantly employed this way.

Many Indians of all the 6 Nations are now at my House, most of those of the upper Nations are come down with their Furs to trade. They all seem to concur in Opinion that a Body of the Enemy will attack this River but say they cannot ascertain when it may be.

Inclosed I send you a piece of Intelligence given me this day, and I think I can depend upon the Indian's Veracity, & also an Extract from a Letter I received a few days ago from Mr. Croghan.

I don't think any of the 6 Nations would at present be forward to attack Swegachy, or any of those Indians who did not attack them.

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Inclosed in a letter of John Appy to Robert Wood, July 2, 1758.

² Not found.

I hope the Indians I may bring with me will do all the Service which can reasonably be expected from them.

Untill the Return of the Indian Officers I cannot, with any degree of exactness, say what number of Indians I may be able to muster & bring to Lake George; And I am more uncertain on this head, because a few days ago, when my Belt of Invitation to the 5 Nations arrived at Oneida, one came there at the same time from the Government of Pennsylvania, inviting the 6 Nations down to that province, which along with my Belt is gone thro' the Nations — These Counter-Workings I well know, & the Indians who are come down here tell me, will occasion a Confusion amongst the 5 Nations, & distress them what Conduct they shall observe. Sure I am these Interferings are opposite both to the Intent and Letter of my Commission from His Majesty, & equally am I certain that it will prejudice the British Indian Interest in general. For my own part, if we are thus to pull different ways, & set up as it were a Rivalship without Controul, I do propose, as I am confident I cannot carry on the Indian Service with expectations of serving His Majesty to any good Purposes, to desire Leave to resign my Employment, & for which upon any selfish motives I never was solicitous.

From all I hear, the Council at Onondaga is by this time over, & probably before I see your Excellency, I shall receive some Intelligence of what was transacted there. Three Mohawk Indians were to go to every Castle of the 5 Nations with my Belt of Invitation, I expect them back in a few days, & I imagine they will bring me some News, & perhaps some of Consequence.

I am very glad Your Excellency proposes a Reinforcement for this part of the Country, as I am of opinion that this grand Pass ought to be respectively secured during this important Campaign.

I will endeavour to lay out for obtaining timely Intelligence, if the Enemy should be making any preparations for a Descent from Oswego.— I every hour expect the Return of an Indian party from Canada, by whom I hope to have some Intelligence —

There is another party likewise out, who I think will be back in a few days; if they get a Prisoner, or any important Intelligence, I directed them to call at Fort Edward.

19 June. Just now the Mohawk Indians, who went with my Belt thro' the 6 Nations, are returned. They say some Seneca, Onondaga, Tuscarora and Oneida Indians are on their way down upon my Call, & they expect will be at the German flats in a Day or two; they heard no account of the Enemy's immediate Approach, but that all the Indians say the French will come down this Summer.

I am &c. &c.

INDORSED: Copy

A Letter from Sr. W^m. Johnson
to M. G. Abercromby
June 18th. 1758.—
in Mr. Appy's of July 2^d. 1758.
8. 14

INDIAN INTELLIGENCE ¹

Fort Johnson 18 June 1758

The Information of Taghanahiroa a principal Warrior of Onandaga & who has always been judged faithful to the English.

That about 22 days ago he called at Cadaraqui, having been a-hunting near that place: and whilst there, he saw a great number of Battoes arrive from Canada, loaden with Arms Ammunition & Indian Goods, which he was told were to be shipt for Niagara; and the Commanding Officer said, That the French proposed to have two Armies this year, one of which was to come down the Mohock River by way of Oswego, & that these Arms

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England Inclosed in a letter of Johnson to Abercromby, June 18, 1758, and John Appy to Robert Wood, July 2d.

&c. were for the Indians who were to assemble at Niagara & proceed from thence to Oswego. The other Army was to assemble at Tionderoga.

INDORSED: Intelligence of an Onondaga
Indian.

Fort Johnson June 18th. 1758.

Enclosed in S^r. William's of same Day
in Mr. Appy's of July 2^d. 1758.

9. 15

CHEROKEES TO DELAWARES

*Contemporary Copy.*¹

20th: June 1758

A Message from Techtama and Homwhyowa or the Wolf King the Two Chiefs of the Cherokees to the Delawares, as it was Delivered by Cowl the Messenger at Philadelphia to Mr. Peters and Israel Pemberton.

Mr. John Hart Interpreter

Nephews, We some time ago received a Belt from you at which we were glad, and are exceeding desirous to hear again from you. Before this Belt came we had not heard from you a long Time, should be glad to hear oftener and promise a good Understanding with you.

Nephews, We should be glad you would come to our Towns to see us. It is a great while since we saw you. The King of the lower Town called the Wolf in particular will be glad to see you.

We have to acquaint you that we have received a Tomhawk from our Elder Brothers the English and are going along with them to the War against the French and the Indians that are their Allies.

¹ Destroyed by fire. It was inclosed in Denny to Johnson, June 27, 1758.

We are going to War along with our Brothers the English, but as for you, you need not be uneasy nor apprehensive of our doing you any Mischief; for we love you as our Selves from the Heart and will not hurt you, for we look upon you as ourselves.

Nephews: Our eldest Brothers the Six Nations have likewise given us a Tomhawk, and desired us to join with our eldest Brothers the English. But we desire you would be under no Apprehensions, for we do not intend to hurt you our Nephews at all.

Nephews, Listen to us, we do not desire you should go to War at all. Formerly you used to wear a Petticoat, and did not use to go to War, and we do not now desire you to go to War, you may stay at home, and we will fight for you; we are resolved to go to War along with our Brothers the English, that you need not go to War. Nephews, we are sorry there should have been a kind of Shyness between us and you for a good while past, we earnestly desire we may make a firm and lasting Peace. We suppose other Indians may envy our Peace, Friendship and good Understanding, and tell Strange Stories; but we desire you our Nephews may not give Credit to such. When we speak to you we shall send you Belts, and unless you receive Belts from us, we desire you would take no Notice of the idle Reports you may hear. But when we send you our Belts we desire you then to regard what we send.

Nephews. We earnestly request that you would come and see us the ensuing Spring at some of our Towns, that we may have the Opportunity of conversing more freely than we can at this distance from each other.

Nephews, We desire you to tell your Women to be industrious and plant Corn, for they may do it safely, that they may have enough for themselves, and likewise have Provision for your Journey when you come to see us.

Nephews. We your Uncles the Cherokees have a great Love and Regard for our elder Brothers the English, and we hope and desire you may have the same Love for them that we have. It

is out of our particular Love and Regard for them that we join in the War with them. We have already demonstrated our affection for our elder Brothers the English by killing 20 Frenchmen 12 Tawas and 2 Shawnese.

Nephews, We the Chiefs of the Cherokees will wait and smoak our Pipe in Expectation of our Nephews coming to see us, we will endeavour to keep the Road clear for our Nephews the Lenapis to pass, and we hope you will come and we shall be glad to see you.

Nephews, You know or can have a near Guess how many of your Country People are living on the Ohio among the French. We earnestly desire You would endeavor to bring them away, for the Tomhawk we have received from our elder Brothers the English is exceeding sharp. It is a good Tomhawk; we are afraid we shall kill some of your People in a Mistake, which we shall be very loath to do, for which Reason we desire you to bring them away, if possible, that so they may join with the English. Why do your People stay there to help the French, when they get nothing from the French, they should come and settle with you and leave the French. We again request you to bring away the Lenapis and leave none there, they are in Alliance with the French, and are firm Friends of the French; As for our Parts we have had War Time out of Mind with the Tawas, and intend to continue the War with them and the Shawanese on the Ohio, Why do your People continue with the French who give them nothing.

Nephews. We hope when you come to our Towns in the Spring to see us, you will bring us the good News that you have removed your Brethren from the French and Shawnese and Tawas the friends of the French on the Ohio.

We shall smoak our Pipe and wait impatiently for this good News, and endeavour to keep the Road clear till you come.

Here he delivered the Belt.

Being asked to whom he would have the Belt delivered he said to the Chief of the Delawares, being asked his Name he

said he did not know, but desired to be informed who it was that sent a Belt last Fall to the Cherokees, and being told by Mr. Peters that it was Teedyuscung, he desired this Belt might be sent to him, as soon as it could.

He likewise desired that the Chief of the Delawares might be informed, that, as he had another Belt for the Six Nations, he intended, as soon as he was recovered, to go with that by Water, via New York. And as he cannot go with this Belt to the Lenapis, he hopes what he now sends will be satisfactory

The above is a true Interpretation

John Hart

A true copy

RICHARD PETERS

Secretary.

INDORSED: Copy Minutes of what was said by the sick Cherokee in Explanation of the Belt he had with him to deliver to the Delawares.
20 June 1758

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.¹

Fort Edward 21st June 1758

SIR

With yours of the 18th. I was favored this evening by which I am very glad to learn, that you are to come in person to command the Indians, being perswaded nobody else could manage them but yourself. And I must again beg, that you may pursue your Route to the Lake, with all possible expedition.

The Onondaga's intelligence, which you sent me, confirms me in the Opinion, that any designs the French have against the Mohawk River, is at a great distance, & if we are so happy as to

¹ Destroyed by fire.

succeed in our stroke toward this Quarter, there will in all probability be an end to any attempt from Lake Ontario; but to put that past all doubt, I have very fully recommended to Brigadier Stanwix to take post with all expedition at the great Carrying place,¹ which I am perswaded will give security to the Inhabitants wives & children, of our friendly Indians as well as produce other good consequences, & I can see no harm it should immediately be conveyed to Swegatchie, that a considerable body of Troops were posted there in order to demolish them if they move to the assistance of the French at Carrillon and lastly a body of our Troops there assembled, leaves no excuse for the six Nations in not joining us, or for their returning back, upon any alarm, which may be industriously Spread for that end.

I am as much provoked as you can be, at the behaviour of the Pensilvanians, which I beg you may represent at home, as I shall do to His Majesty's Ministers. If they won't find out a remedy for such practices, no blame can lye at our Door. And in the mean time, I am very willing to interpose my authority, but as they paid no regard to my Predecessors, I don't flatter myself, they will mind my remonstrances. their Mal-practices, as well as that of others, would not be a Sufficient excuse for us to give up His Majesty's Service. And I hope any such provocation will not determine you to take that Step, which the Pensilvanians as well as all other illicit Traders covet above all things. I could Say more upon this Subject; but as I am pressed in Time, and as I expect to have the pleasure of Seeing you So Soon, I shall finish

I am

Dr. Sir,

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant.

JAMES ABERCROMBY

SIR W^m. JOHNSON

¹ General John Stanwix was succeeded in command of the southern district of North America by General John Forbes and was transferred to the Oneida Carrying Place, where he built the fort which bore his name.

JELLES FONDA'S JOURNAL

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 95, by Captain Jelles Fonda's journal of a trip to the Seneca country, dated May 30—June 24. Destroyed by fire.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Contemporary Copy*¹

Fort Johnson 22^d. June 1758

SIR,

I this day received from Mr. Secretary Appy an Extract from your Letter to him of the 20th. instant. I am sincerely concerned for your Indisposition, and hope these will find you recovered from it.

Neither Mr. Croghan or the five Nation Indians are arrived; I am in hourly Expectation of both. I find my Belt of Summons prevented the Council at Onondaga from sitting.— They were met, & upon the Receipt of my Belt adjourned hither. I hear also a Deputation of 23 Cherokee Indians are arrived at Albany in their way hither. Mr. Croghan must I think be here to-day or to-morrow, as I hope the five Nations will also. The Indians who are already at hand are very eager to know what the Upper Nations have to say, & would wish to know it before we march, when I hope also to increase my Number.

If Your Excellency could fix an ultimate day, for my joining you, I would willingly know it, and have your positive Orders when I must march to join you. I can be at Lake George in 4 days. I hope you will be able to afford me 6 or 7 days longer here; if not, I shall obey your Orders, & march with such Indians as are at hand. I have dispatched an Express to hurry along the upper Nations. If what Indians I expect to get from them, & those Mr. Croghan is gone for, cannot be ready to march at your

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Inclosed in a letter of John Appy to Robert Wood, July 2, 1758.

day, I must leave them behind, which will occasion a Disgust, as I fear but few of them will be in a humour to follow me.

I am with the greatest regard, &c.

To His Excellency

MAJOR GEN^L. ABERCROMBY.

INDORSED: Copy

A Letter from Sr. W^m. Johnson
to M. G. Abercromby.—

June 22.^o 1758.—

in Mr. Appy's of July 2^d. 1758

12. 18

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Contemporary Copy*¹

Fort Edward June 24. 1758.

SIR,

This moment I have the favour of Yours of the 22^d. instant from Fort Johnson acquainting me that neither Mr. Croghan or the five-Nation Indians are arrived, but that you are in hourly expectation of both; — that the Council of Onondaga were adjourned to your house, & that the Indians were already at hand, & very eager to know, what the upper Nations had to say, & would wish to know it before they marched, which you hope will increase their number.—After this, You are pleased to say “If Your Excellency would please to fix an ultimate day for my joining you, I would willingly know it, & have your positive Orders, when I must march from hence to join you,” Concluding, that you can be at the Lake “in 4 days; that I should afford you 6. or 7. days longer at Fort Johnson; that the Indians you expect to get from the Upper Nations, & those Mr. Croghan is gone for,

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Inclosed in a letter of John Appy to Robert Wood, July 2, 1758.

cannot be ready to march at *my day*,— & that you must therefore leave them behind, which you say will occasion a Disgust, as you fear few of them will be in a Humour to follow you.”—

Considering the clear & explicite Correspondence that has passed betwixt us ever since I landed in America to this hour, I must confess my Surprize at this Letter, & that I am diffculted to understand it, as well as to answer it.—To go no farther back at present than the 7th. instant, when I parted with you at Albany. You then saw what forwardness we were in; You have been informed since, of our Progress, & required to join me with all possible expedition.—After all that has passed on this occasion, I must again express my Concern at being deprived of your Aid & Assistance with the Indians at Your Back, which we stand much in need of.—I dare say You have used your best Endeavours, & that you have been disappointed greatly in your Expectations.— This would have been no Surprize to me, & you needed not have used any Ceremony in owning it.—I have only to add that I propose to be at the Lake on Monday the 26th., & to get every thing a-float with all possible Dispatch; So that you have not a day to lose in joining us; & if we should fall down the Lake I shall leave Boats for you to follow.— Let me know what number you can bring. Forward those in readiness, with your Indian Officers, & come with the last Column yourself; You know best their Trim, & take your own method.

I am &c. &c.

SIR W^m. JOHNSON Bart.

INDORSED: Copy

A Letter from M. General

Abercromby to Sr. W^m. Johnson —

June 24th. 1758.—

in Mr. Appy's of July 2^d: 1758

13. . 19

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Contemporary Copy*¹*Fort Johnson 27 June 1758.*

SIR,

I will not trespass upon your time at present by a particular Answer to your Excellency's Letter of the 24th. instant, neither indeed would my own time permit me to do it

Believe me, Sir, I have endeavoured in every shape to render the Correspondence I have had the honour to carry on with you, as candid & explicit as was in my Power. If I have failed herein, it hath not been owing to Intention, but to the misfortune of my being involved in a Service which cannot, or at least which I cannot, put upon a Footing of Certainty & Punctuality.

On Thursday I will march from hence with such Indians I can prevail on to go with me: what number that will be, I cannot be certain of, I believe about 200, and that more will follow me. The Report of Mr. Croghan being so near at hand, was, I find, a false one. I have not heard from him since the Letter I sent you an Extract from, where he is, or what delays him, I am ignorant of.

I assure you, Sir, upon my honour, that you cannot be more impatient for my joining you with the Indians, than I have been, & am, to do so. I am as much perplexed as you are displeased at the Delay, & your Displeasure adds to my Perplexity.

I am most respectfully &c.

P.S.

Since the above, the French Prisoner is arrived, & Inclosed I send you the Questions I asked him, & his Answers,—tomorrow I propose sending him to Schenectady, to be escorted to Gen^l. Stanwix.

¹ In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Inclosed in a letter of John Appy to Robert Wood, July 2, 1758.

This Evening Mr. Croghan also arrived; he left about 100 Indians, Men, on the Road, a part of whom will be here to-morrow morning; the rest at night or next morning. The Onondaga's Oneidas & Tuscarora's arrived also this day, the Senecas are yet on the Road.— I have acquainted all the Indians here with my Determination to march on Thursday: they have made several Speeches about it, but I told them I could stay no longer.

To His Excellency MAJOR GEN^L. ABERCROMBY

INDORSED: Copy

A Letter from Sir W^m. Johnson —
to M. G. Abercromby —
June 27th. 1758.—
in Mr. Appy's of July 2^d. 1758.
14. 20

EXAMINATION OF A. FRENCH PRISONER¹

Fort Johnson 27 June 1758

Examination of the French Prisoner brought hither this day by the Indians.

Question 1.

Answer.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. What is Your Name? | Joseph Perron. |
| 2. Where was you born? | At Mons ^r . Longueil's Manor. |
| 3. How long did you live there? | From the time of my Birth 35 years. |
| 4. What is your Profession? | A Labourer. |
| 5. How long ago were you taken? | 21 days. |
| 6. When were you last at Monreal? | 13 months ago. |

¹In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Inclosed in a letter of Johnson to Abercromby, June 27, 1758, and John Appy to Robert Wood, July 2d.

Question 1.

Answer.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>7. How far was your place
of Abode from Mon-
treal? }</p> | 12 Leagues above Montreal on
the River St. Laurence. |
| <p>8. Where was Mons^r.
Montcalm & the
troops when you was
taken? }</p> | At Quebec, as Mr. Longueil
told me 8 days before I was
taken. The troops were
then in Quarters, but I
heard, about the time I was
taken, they were ordered to
move, but I don't know
whither. |
| <p>9. Are Provisions & Amu-
nition plenty in Can-
ada? }</p> | As to Ammunition I do not
know. Provisions of all
kinds are scarce both in the
Army & the Country. |
| <p>10. If any Vessels or Men
of War were arrived
at Quebec from
Europe? }</p> | None that I heard of, but they
were in daily Expectation of
some. |
| <p>11. Did you hear what way
the Troops were to
march this year? }</p> | There were 1500 Regulars &
1500 Militia to proceed to
the Ohio, but none passed
by, before he was taken. |
| <p>12. Did you hear what num-
ber of Troops were
expected to be at Ca-
rillon this Summer? }</p> | I did not hear a word about it. |
| <p>13. Were you ever at Carillon?</p> | Never. |
| <p>14. If any Indians went down
to Montreal this Year?</p> | None that I know of. |
| <p>15. Where was M. Longueil
when you was taken?</p> | At home; but he had orders to
go to Quebec the 15 June,
but I don't know on what
Business. |

Question 1.

Answer.

16. What number of Troops are in Garrison at Fort Frontinac? There were 80 last year, but don't know how many, this.
17. How many troops are in Garrison at Niagara? I do not know.
18. How many at La Gallette? Sixty.
19. If any Battoes with Goods or Provisions went up the River towards Fort Frontignac? None that I know of.
20. If any Troops were quartered last Winter at M. Longueil's? None.
21. What Troops are at Fort Du Quesne, & who commands there? I don't know. M. de Lingerie commands there.
22. If any Indians were come down to Montreal this year from the Westward or the Northward? None arrived, but several expected about the latter end of this month.
23. If European Goods are plenty in Canada? They have not many.
24. If the Indians from Suegachi are come down to Montreal? None that I know of.
25. Did you hear any Talk of an English Army attacking Ticonderoga, Louisbourg, or Fort du Quesne this Year? I heard nothing of either.
26. If you heard any Talk of a Body of Troops & Indians coming down this River by way of Oswego. No.

Question 1.

Answer.

27. Did you hear any thing of the Gov^r. of Canada buying up all the Provisions he could get, & stowing them in the King's Magazines. Yes, & a certain monthly Allowance was made to the Inhabitants.
28. Are there plenty of Horses in Canada? They begin to be scarce.
29. Why? Because the people are obliged to eat them, & began to do so since 15 days before Christmas last.

INDORSED: Examination of a French Prisoner, brought to Fort Johnson, June 27th: 1758. enclosed in Sr. William Johnson's Letter of the same Date.— in Mr. Appy's of July 2^d. 1758. 15.— 21.

CHEROKEES TO SIX NATIONS

Contemporary Copy ¹

At the State House [Philadelphia] on Tuesday the 27th: June 1758.

Present

Richard Peters
Israel Pemberton
Charles Thomson

Indians

Kool or Moyeman and Henely two Cherokee Captains deputed to go on a Message to the Six Nations, Seneka George,

¹ Destroyed by fire. It was inclosed in Denny to Johnson, June 27, 1758.

five Cherokee Indians. John Hart and James Crawley Interpreters.

Kool who has been four Weeks sick and recovers but slowly said last Night we concluded to send to Winchester for two of our old Men to come to my Assistance, and try if they could cure me, but now we have altered our Minds and determine to apply to our elder Brother, namely Seneka George I am now entirely well as to the Pain in my Breast and Side, nothing hurts me but this Pain in my Thigh, and I will apply to Seneka George for the Cure of it; I desire Seneka George may have Two Bottles of Rum. He thinks it necessary for my Service, and designs it as an Offering.

Mr. Peters let him know, that he had said yesterday, if the Secretary would attend, he would explain the Belts to the Mohawks, and that now he was come for that Purpose.

He desired it might be some other Time, as they were not now going and he wanted his Brother to attend his Cure. But after pausing some Time he altered his Mind and said he had often promised to morrow and to morrow and he would now do it. Upon which Henely open'd the Casket with the Belts and Strings of Wampum and several Pipes, and Kool after sorting them taking in his Hand three Strings, spoke.

First, he related that he came from home with a Party of Cherokees to go to War last Spring, and whilst he was at one of the Forts on the Frontiers of this Province some of the Chiefs of the Six Nations then at Lancaster sent Deputies to them on which he was appointed to go with those Deputies into the Six Nation Country, and on his Return home with the Messages he received from the Six Nations, the Chiefs of his Nation said to him, "at your first setting out we told you now you are going to War, but since you are come from the Six Nations we look upon you as a King or Person in Authority, because you have brought good Messages from our eldest Brothers the Six Nations, by which we see they and we are all as one People and all in Alliance with one and the same King."

Our eldest Brothers the Six Nations said to us, "you Warriors and Captains listen to us. Here we give you a Tomhawk, and shall be glad if you will take Hold of it. We answered that we would take Hold of it. 3 Strings.

He then proceeded to repeat the Message he has to deliver viz^t.

Our eldest Brothers the Six Nations, we have received your Tomhawk. We have sat here a great while inactive and have not gone to War. We have now found a Tomhawk and are angry that the French have killed some of our Brethren. The Tomhawk we formerly had was a dull one, we have therefore been looking out for a good Tomhawk and now we have found one we will go with our Brothers against the French, quite into their Towns, wherever we can find them. We intend to join our Brothers the English heartily in the War; we are strong in our Hearts; we have now got a good Tomhawk, we received your Tomhawk; it is very sharp. We have now found the Place where the Enemy lies. We are not afraid of the French, we will go to War against them with good Courage. The French first broke the Peace and killed a great many of the English for which we are sorry at our Heart.

Our eldest Brothers the Six Nations, you have also given us a good sharp Tomhawk. We sat at home a great while and wonderd you did not give us a Tomhawk sooner to help you. You have now given us a Tomhawk and desired us to be strong in our Hearts and make use of it.

Brothers the Six Nations, we now design to join heartily with our Brothers, the English in the War, and use the Tomhawk you gave us and to help them this Spring.

Six Strings of black Wampum mixed with a little white.

Then taking out the Six Sticks he said, Our eldest Brethren the Six Nations, there are not many of us going to War this Spring, each of these Sticks signifies 200, so that we make in all but 1200, that now go to War.

Then he took out a Belt of Nine Rows, with Three Figures of Men wrought in it, one at each End and one in the middle, and a Row of black from one End to the other, on which he said,

Listen to me, my Brothers the Kings of the Six Nations. This is what the Cherokee Kings say. We have had a good Understanding together this good while and we hope it will continue long, and as we are Relations, we would not have you think otherwise, nor be under the least Apprehension of receiving any Hurt from us.

Listen to us our Brothers the Kings of the Six Nations, as we have had a good Understanding with each other a considerable Time, we are sorry you have not visited us for a long Time; But we consider the French have been the Cause of it, for we know they are an evil minded malicious People. We must now let you know since we have received your Belts, we look on them as if we had seen your Kings in Person.

We now tell you our Brothers the Kings of the Six Nations, that we have made a Road for you, and we will endeavour to keep that Road clear for our Brothers to walk in, in hopes that you will come and make use of that Road; but if any of the Children of the French (the Indians in Alliance with them) make use of our Road, or throw any obstructions in the Way we will certainly kill them.

He next explained the Belt as follows, This Man at the End is the King of the Six Nations; This Man in the Middle is the Kiowee King (the Wolf King) who says to our eldest Brothers the Six Nations I have now cleared the Road. I have cut down all the Trees and moved away all the Stones out of your Way that you may come to my Town; likewise the Road is cleared from my Town to the Indian Town Chotta for your Messengers to come to us, and tell us the News; and they may go safe from Town to Town.

A Belt.

Brothers of the Six Nations, you gave us an Invitation to come to your Towns to visit you. We are very sorry that a little after

we received that Invitation, our eldest Brothers the English came and told us they were going to War in four Days more. We did design that a great many of our People should go to your Town, but as we are going to War, there can but a few go. We are a little concerned and sorry that we received such a Message from the English, which allowed us so little Time, and that so few can go.

A String.

Our eldest Brothers the Kings of the Six Nations, we are very sorry we have not seen more of you in our Towns than we really have, we have seen but a very few of our Brothers of the Six Nations in our Towns; but we should be exceeding glad to see a great many of you our Brothers at our Towns, where we would receive them, and treat them with all the Kindness in our Power. we earnestly invite you to come and see us in our Towns. But you know what Time will suit you best.

4 Strings white Wampum.

Then Henely prepared and lighted a Calumet Pipe, first smoaking himself, and then gave it to all present white Men and Indians who smoaked out of it.

Listen to me my eldest Brothers the Kings, Warriors and Chief Men of the Six Nations: The King of the Chottas says: You gave me a Tomhawk to go to War against the Enemy. I am now to acquaint you that I have been at War, and that I have made use of your Tomhawk, I have killed Two Indians, but of what Nation I know not whether Tawas or Shawonese. The young Men here present were at the Action in which the Two Indians were killed.

He then said he had finished.

A true Copy

RICHARD PETERS

Secretary.

INDORSED: Copy

Minutes of the Cherokees Message
to the Six Nations.

June 27, 1758.

FROM WILLIAM DENNY

L. S.¹*Philadelphia 27th: June 1758*

SIR

About four Weeks ago Thirteen Cherokee Warriors came into this City, conducted by Johnny, the Son of the present Wife of Seneca George, in their Way to the Six Nations, only Four of them were sent by the Heads of the Cherokees, but the other Nine, being at Winchester as they passed thro', of their own accord joined them. The Cherokee Chief being well known here, as well as the Importance of his Messages, it was intended, and Provision accordingly made, that he should proceed to you on his Journey without Delay; but unfortunately, as he was preparing to set out, he was seized with a violent Pleurisy, and grew so bad, that, for some Time, it was apprehended he could not recover, or if he did, that he would not be able for a long Time to prosecute the Journey. He had with him Two Sets of Belts,² one for the Delawares and the other for the Six Nations, the first in Answer to a Belt given him by Teedyuscung in his Return from you last Fall, the other in answer to those you sent by him, of both which the inclosed Papers contain the Explanation as given by him in his Sickness.

On his continuing to be very ill, it was agreed at a consultation with all of them, that Henely, the next in Character, and the other Cherokees should proceed with the Messages, but, on the sick Man's Recovery they altered their Minds, and are now determined to stay till he gets well enough to go with them. Their Errand, you will please to observe, is to let the Six Nations and Delawares know they have taken up the Hatchet against the French, and they invite them both to come to their Towns, having

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² Cherokees to Delawares, June 20, 1758, *q. v.*, and Cherokees to Six Nations, June 27, 1758.

cleared a Road for them. I hope this will be improved to render the Union between the Southern and Northern Indians more general; an Event much to be desired.

Our Frontiers, and those of the Jerseys, have, of late, been much harrassed by Parties of Enemy Indians.

In the Spring Teedyuscung renewed his Application made at the late Treaties with him, to have some Houses built at Wyoming for the Delaware Indians to live in, and on his earnest Importunity a few were built by Commissioners sent there for that Purpose. This was no sooner done, but I received Intelligence, that the other Indians, and particularly the Senecas, were displeased of it, and that Paxinosa was removing with all his Family to his former Habitation on the Ohio. Alarmed with this disagreeable News, Messages were sent, in the Name of the General, and myself to Teedyuscung, who has stayd at Wyoming since the Houses were burnt there, insisting, that he should set this Matter in a true Light with all the Indians; and as our Inhabitants were too frequently robbed, murdered and carried captive by Indians, who crossed the Sasquehannah River not far from Wyoming, it was further urged, that he should send Messages in their Name and his own to the Senecas, and to all the Indians on the Waters of the Sasquehannah, inviting them to come as soon as possible to confer with the General and myself on the present Situation of Affairs, that they might know for certain what to depend upon.

Since these Messages went, another is just now likewise sent by the Governor of New Jersey who came here to confer with General Forbes and myself to the Minisink and Pumpton Indians, inviting them to come to Burlington, in order to adjust any Claims they may have upon that Province for Lands.

It is thought, that all or most of the present Scalping Parties, which cross the Sasquehannah, are fitted out at Fort Niagara or Fort Machault,¹ and consist of Senecas, Tawas and the most

¹ The French post at the mouth of French creek, named for Jean Baptiste Machault.

inveterate and wicked Mixture of Munsies settled in the Seneca Country; and it is said, that they are joined by others of the Six Nations inveigled by the French Senecas. This unhappy Situation makes it absolutely necessary, that we should know for certain who our Enemies are, what Teedyuscung has been doing, what Nations and Tribes, or what Parts of Nations and Tribes, he is connected with, what Authority has at any Time been given him by the Six Nations, or any other Tribes of Indians, and what connections he has in particular with the Senecas.

As it is impossible for me to obtain this necessary Knowledge, since every thing is transacted by Teedyuscung, and some disaffected People here with whom he is much connected, this Government will be infinitely obliged to you, if you will be so good as to make an Enquiry, and in your own Name, as well as the General's and mine, send strong and earnest Messages to the Senecas and other Indian Nations, requesting they may come and confer with the General and me. Without your Assistance the Consequences may prove fatal to His Majesty's Subjects in this and the neighbouring Provinces.

Not having been of late favoured with any Accounts from you, I am in the greatest Perplexity imaginable; and therefore desire, in the most pressing Manner, that you would be pleased to favour me with your Opinion, Intelligence and Advice. I am

Sir, with the greatest Regard

Your most obedient and

Most humble Servant

WILLIAM DENNY

Please to excuse the Blots
having no Time to get
it wrote fair over.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^t.

INDORSED: Governor Dennys Letter
with Cherokee Indians
Speeches to 6 Nat^s. &
Delaware Indians.

JOHN APPY TO ROBERT WOOD

*Extract*¹*Albany 2^d: July 1758.*

From General Abercrombys Letter on Indian Affairs, of the 24th of May last, and from Sir William Johnsons Report therein enclosed, You have seen, that untill the Congress of Onondaga broke up, Sir William looked upon His Majestys Indian Interest, to be in a State of Suspense.

That, if the private Intelligence he had received, relative to this Meeting, could be depended on, we might hope very favorable things from the Indians; as in such case he was enclined to believe, a considerable body of them would Act against the french upon their own Plan, in a Separate body, and in another part of Our Army; however he questioned not, he should then be able to send or bring into the Field between four and five hundred Indians.

That should the System proposed at Onondaga be a Neutrality, he apprehended some of Our more Neighbouring Nations would not fall into it; And that he might even then be able to muster near 300 to Join His Majestys Arms towards Canada by way of Lake George.

But should the Indians at this Congress, unfortunately determine to Join the French against Us; he could not take upon him to say how extensive it's Influence might reach, or what number in such Case would adhere to Us.

Upon the whole, in his Conversation with the General, he seemed Confident he should be able to Muster the 300, and desired he might only have three or four days Notice; but beg'd that, that notice might not be signified to him untill just before

¹ In a letter from J. Appy, Secretary to General Abercromby, to R. Wood, Under Secretary of State, toward the middle. In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.50, London, England. Printed for the light it throws on the Abercromby-Johnson relations.

the going to Action, as there was no such thing, as to keep Indians for any time lying still in a Camp.— This being agreed to, Sir William Johnson returned to his House, in order to prepare his Indians, and to endeavor to learn the result of the Conference at Onondaga.

On the 3^d: of June, the General wrote to Sir William Johnson, that he intended to set out for Fort Edward in three days; that he should make as little stay there as possible, and then proceed to Lake George, where he should be glad, that Sir William would Join him as soon as he could, with as many Indians as he should be able to Collect.

The fourth day thereafter, Sir William came himself to Albany, and found the General just ready to set out on his March; but the Chief end of his Journey, was to obtain a War-rant for his Appointments, from the day of the date of his Commission to the 24^t: June 1758, amounting to £1397..13..5; and another for £2000, on Account of sundries to Equip his Indians; without which, altho', not three Weeks before, he had had another for £1200 on the same Account, he said it would be impossible to get any Indians to Stir; to obviate which, the General immediately complied with his request.

This Point being settled, the General repeated to Sir William his Summons of the 3^d; but the Conferences at Onondaga not being yet over, the answer was the same as the former; with this addition, that the constant Alarms at the Mohawk River, and the rumours of a considerable body of the Enemy intending an inroad that way, would make it difficult, to persuade the Indians in those Quarters to quit their Castles.

It is necessary to observe here, that notwithstanding these Alarms and rumours are very frequent, and have often proved, to have no other foundation than the fears and apprehensions of the Inhabitants; yet, out of Precaution and to quiet the Minds of those Inhabitants, the General, immediately upon notice thereof, (which was a few days before Sir Williams arrival) had moved up several Companies of the New Yorkers; and he

then told Sir William, that if this Intelligence should be repeated with any probability of truth, he would send such Additional Strength to the Mohawk River, as should be necessary to secure the Settlements and Inhabitants thereof, against any Insult that could be expected that way: And that meanwhile, he, Sir William, should proceed to Collect as many Indians as possible, that he might be ready to Join him at the first call, which would be soon.— and here they parted again.

By Sir William Johnsons Letter of the 18th, it seems he had received one from the General of the 15^t; ¹as this was wrote from Fort Edward, and that I have not the Copy of it here, I cannot positively assert it's Contents; but from the Answer, it appears that it must have been a Second Summons, and a dispensation to Sir William, from Commanding the Indians in person, if he could be more significantly Employed his way: (meaning the Mohawk River) from which Dispensation, You will see by his Letter, he Excuses himself, for the reasons therein set forth.

You will likewise see by that Letter, that many Indians of all the Six Nations were then at his House, and that they all seemed to concur in Opinion, that a body of the Enemy would Attack the Mohawk River; but that they could not ascertain when it would be.

This Intelligence, thro' some other means, must have reached the General before that Letter was wrote; for on the 17th, when the Brigade Major came down, as I mentioned before, to hasten up the Provincials, he likewise brought with him a disposition of those Troops; by which, so many of them were destined for the Protection of the Mohawk River, as, with the number that were there before, would make their strength consist in near 3000. Men.

But upon the 21st, the day after I had received and forwarded Sir William Johnson's of the 18^t, I received one of the preceding day from the General, Acquainting me, that from Roger's Intel-

¹ Not found.

ligence, and others, they were quite satisfied, nothing serious could be meant towards the Mohawk River; and that therefore I should Inform Sir William of it, and let him know, that he (the General) should expect to see him, and all that he had Collected, very soon at the Lake — further making an Excuse for his not writing himself, by reason of a relapse.

Sir William Johnsons Secretary being at Albany, and just setting out for Fort Johnson, when this Letter came to my hands, I communicated to him, that part of it which related to Sir William, made an Abstract of it, and beg'd of him to deliver it; which he accordingly did, as appears by Sir William Johnsons Answer of the 22^d, received at Albany the day following.

By this Answer, Sir William Johnson desires the General, to fix an Ultimate day for his Joining him, and positive Orders, when he should March from his House — says, that he can be at Lake George in four days, and hopes that he (the General) will be able to afford him Six or Seven days longer here. (meaning Fort Johnson).

This Application of Sir William's, for so long and further a delay, after having so often and repeatedly been Enjoined to set out; and that to, at a time when the Aid and Assistance of him and his Indians was so necessary; did not a little Surprize the General, who by his reply of the 24^t, has not only fully evinced his Sense of it to Sir William, but has likewise added; that he himself proposed to be at the Lake on the 26th, and get every thing afloat with all possible dispatch; that therefore Sir William had not a day to lose in Joining him; and that if he should fall down the Lake, he would leave boats for him to follow.— he likewise desired to know the number he could bring; and Concludes by telling him, that he should forward with his Indian Officers, those in readiness, and come with the last Column himself.

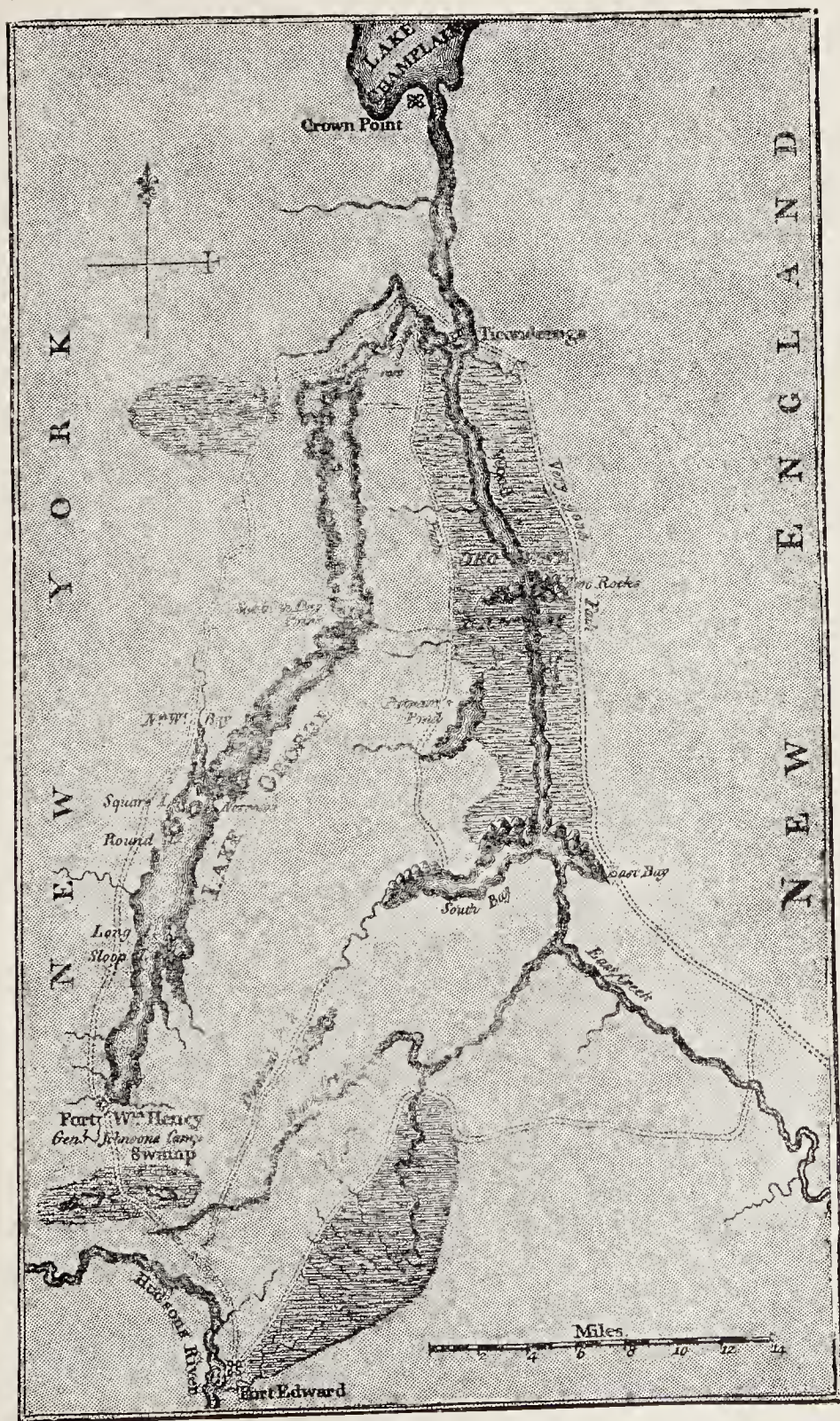
Upon the 27^t, in answer to the foregoing, Sir William Appologizes for his not having been able to Join the General sooner; tells him, that on the thursday (29th) he will March from Fort

Johnson, with such Indians as he could prevail on to go with him; that he cannot be certain what number that will be, but believes 200. and that more will follow him — By postscript, he mentions the arrival of a French Prisoner, and encloses his Examination.— Acquaints the General with the coming of Mr. Croghan, (his Deputy) who had left about One hundred Indians on the road, part of whom would be in the next morning, the rest at Night or the Morning following.— he likewise mentions the arrival, that day, of the Onondagas, Oneidas & Tuscaroras, and the Senecas being yet on the road: And Concludes with saying, that he had Acquainted all the Indians with him, of his determination to March on Thursday; that they had made several Speeches about it, but that he had told them he could stay no longer.

This Letter I forwarded immediately, by Express, to the General, but as I have yet had no return to it, I cannot say, whether Sir William Johnson has Joined the General or not: but the very day that Sir William had appointed for his March, the Indian Interpreter, one Clements, came down to this place, and said, that Sir William was actually Marched with 450. Indians; and upon being asked, how Sir William had been able to Collect so many? he replied, that it was owing, to the french having neither Provisions nor Presents to give them.

The Prisoner mentioned above, was taken by a party of Mohawk Indians, above Montreal, and was sent down here; but upon my re-Examining him, I could get nothing more out of him.— he has since been sent to New York, where he will be in greater Safety.

For Your further Information, I send You a Copy of the Questions put to that Prisoner with his Answers to each; as likewise Copies of the beforementioned Letters.



LAKE GEORGE AND VICINITY

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.¹*Camp in y^e Woods within 10 miles of Fort Edward**July 5th, 1758 — 6 in y^e Morning*

SIR

I arrived here last night with near 200 Indians of the Five Nations & others, Mr. Croghan & Some of the Indⁿ. officers are within a Days March of me with about 100 more as I hear by letter from Him. I hope they will be with me at Fort Edward this afternoon. and with you to morrow. I satt of from my House last Thursday with as Many as I could then get Sober to move with me, which were but verry few, for liquor was as plenty among them as Ditch Water, being brought up from Schenectady by their, and other Squaws as well as white & Sold to them at Night in spite of all I could do these I now have Joined me Since by small Partys. I assure y^r. Excellency no Man ever had more trouble than I have had to get them away from the liquor, and if the Fate of the whole Country depended on my moveing a Day Sooner, I could not do it without leaving them behind, and disgusting all the Nations.

When I have the Honour of Seeing y^r. Excellency, I shall be able to let you know the many Difficulties I had to Surmount, Since I received your Orders.

I am with all Due respect

Y^r. ExcellencysMost &^{ca}W^m. JOHNSON

His Excellency

GEN^{RL}. ABERCROMBIE

¹ Destroyed by fire.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.¹*Camp in y^e woods within 10 miles of Fort
Edward [July 5, 1758]*

SIR

I arrived here last Night with a Number of Indians of the Six Nations &^{ca} and propose being at Fort Edward as soon as possible to morrow on my way to the Lake; they have been out of provision these 2 days w^h. will greatly add to their naturall Voracious Appetites, therefore hope you will order y^e. Comisary to Issue their officers the Provisions on their arrivall if any fresh provisions it will be most Acceptable to them.

I am Sir

Y^r.

Most obedient

Humble Serv^t.W^M. JOHNSON

Sr. I must beg you
will forbid Suttlers, or any
others Selling, or
giveing them any liquor without
My orders, & Knowledge
As the consequence may be
very bad, if th² nce get any liquor.

A RETURN OF CASUALTIES

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 95, is found an undated return of killed, wounded and missing in the attack of July 8th on the French works near Ticonderoga — total 1947. Destroyed by fire.

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² Omission of parts of words in manuscript.



ABERCROMBY'S ATTACK ON TICONDEROGA

(E represents Mount Defiance where Johnson and his Indians were located)

TO FRANCIS BERNARD

*Df.*¹*Fort Johnson 19 July 1758*

SIR

By the Cherokee Indians I was honoured with your Excellencys Favour of the 5 Inst.

I sincerely congratulate you on your safe arrival to your Government² and I hope Health & every other pleasing Circumstance will attend your Administration.

The Indian Measures you have taken & propose to take appear to me well-timed and prudent. From what little Information I have been able to gather and from several other Circumstances, I am inclined to believe, that the Minnisink Indians who formerly lived on those Lands, if not the only, are at least the chief Perpetrators of those Hostilities & ravages which the Frontiers of your Province & that of New York, have & are daily suffering; and I think if they will attend the Meeting to which you have invited them & are disposed to open themselves with explicit Candor, you will find their behaving in this Manner, is owing to their having been disposed³ of their Lands under Claims which they alledge to be derived from Purchases said to be made from them or Deeds given by them, for which they say the consideration Money was never paid, and that until they are duly & regularly satisfied in these complaints as a Body, not by quieting Gratifications to particular People, they will not give up their Hostile proceedings.

I am not led into this Opinion upon any Declarations which they or any other Indians on their behalf have made to me at

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² Francis Bernard, governor of New Jersey, arrived in the colony June 15, 1758.

³ This word is evidently an error. "Dispossessed" is obviously the word that was written.

any public Meeting or private Conference. had this been the Case I should immediately have communicated such Complaints to the Government or Governments concerned.

On the contrary to all the Delaware & River Indians with whom I have held any Conferences, I have frequently & constantly called upon them, to declare if they had any Complaints or just Cause for violating the Brotherhood and Friendship which formerly subsisted between them & the English with such steady Harmony.

They have constantly thrown it upon the Instigations of the French & Indians in that Interest, and upon some of their own hot & wrong-headed People.

But my opinion as above is derived from the following Anecdote.

An Elderly Man who lived in the Highlands & at whose House I dined on my way from New York hither some years ago, told me that he lived with or in the Neighbourhood of one Dupuy & was present when the said Dupuy purchased the Minnisink Lands from the Indians — that when they were to sign the Deed of Sale he made them Drunk & never paid them the purchase Money agreed upon. this Informant whose name I have forgot, said that he lived there some years after this Purchase & I think said kept store & dealt with these Indians, whom he heard frequently complain of the Fraud which had been committed & declare that they would never be easy till they had satisfaction for their Lands.

As to Tediuscung who has made so considerable a figure in the Pensilvania Indian Proceedings, I know nothing of him otherwise; all I can learn this way, is that he was a leading Man amongst some Tribes of Delaware or River Indians. I think he has been too particularly distinguished by that Government & has imposed himself upon them as a Man of much greater Consequence than he really is. At the same time that I think he should not engross the whole attention as he seems to have done, I would not advise his being treated with contempt for a for-

ward assuming Indian who can not do much good, is capable of doing a great deal of Mischief. If not known, the Indians should be asked who are their Chiefs & who they appoint to transact matters in their behalf and we ought not to trust to or depend upon the assuming Importance of any one particular Indian.

I am sending away my Deputy Mr. Croghan amongst the Susquahanna Indians from whence he is and I am sending a Belt of Wampum & a Speech of mine to the scattered Delaware Indians on the Ohio to invite them back to their former Settlements & to a grand Meeting with the Gov^t. of Pensilvania with those Indians, the Susquhannaha Indians & Deputies of the Six Nations; to the latter I am also sending a Belt of Wampum to desire their Deputies will attend.

If this Meeting in the Gov^t. of Pensilvania should take place, I am apt to believe there would be the properest place for you to endeavour ultimately to adjust any Indian claims upon your Province & lay a firm foundation to secure the future Tranquility of your Frontiers, to which your Meeting at Burlington may serve as a prelude & a solemn & final Conclusion be made at the other in the Presence of so many various Nations as may be there assembled, when perhaps they may consent to be Guarantees to your Treaty w^{ch}. will undoubtedly render it more Solemn & more permanent.

INDORSED: Sr. W^m. Johnson's Letter
to Gov^r. Bernard 19 July 1758.

TO DELAWARE INDIANS¹

Fort Johnson — July 21st: 1758.

Copy.

Sir William Johnson's Speech to the Delaware Indians living on the Ohio and those Parts, sent this Day by Joseph Peppy, a Delaware Indian.

¹ In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Manuscripts — Indian Affairs, 1757-72.

Brethren,

Since the War broke out between the English and the French, I have given several Belts of Wampum to your Brethren living on the Sasquehannah River to be sent you in my Name and also in the Name of your Uncles the Six Nations, to call on you to come away from the Ohio and those Parts, and to return to your former Settlements on the Sasquehannah River, where your Brethren still remain. but I fear some evil Spirit has taken my Belts and put them under Ground, and that they were never delivered to you, for I find you still remain on the Ohio, and I have never had any Answer from you to any of my said Belts.

Brethren,

This Spring I gave another Belt to some of your Flesh and Blood who came to this Council Fire from Otsaningo, repeating the above Call to you, and which they promised should be sent to you.

Your Uncles the Cayugas, who were lately here, told me they had sometime ago sent you a Belt, desiring you would leave the Ohio, and come and live with the Rest of your Brethren on the Waters of the Sasquehannah.

I have just now also heard a Speech which your Uncles the Cherokees, some of whom are now come to this Council Fire, to talk with your Uncles and their Brethren of the Six Nations, in this Speech your Uncles the Cherokees, by a Belt of Wampum, desire you would come away from the Ohio, as they have declared War against the French and their Indians, and have joined their Arms with their Brethren the English; they are therefore afraid they might meet some of you in that Country, and, by Mistake, hurt you, which they would be sorry for, as they have a great Kindness and Regard for your Nation.

Brethren,

The Times are troublesome, and I see black Clouds gathering over the Ohio, I therefore send this Belt for the last Time, and your Uncles the Six Nations join me in it, to advise you to get

out of the Way, and come with all your Families, and live with the Rest of your Brethren on the Waters of the Sasquehannah, which you will find safe and pleasant, and have Ground enough to plant on.

It is not good at any Time for Brethren to be separated at so great a Distance from each other, as your People now are, more especially at such Times as these.

Brethren,

I hope you will listen to the many Calls which have been given you from Time to Time by all your Friends, they wish you well and mean for your Good. Don't listen to evil minded People who want to shut your Eyes from seeing what is good, and deceive you with lying Speeches.

Your Uncles the Six Nations and your Brethren living on the Sasquehannah River are invited to a great Meeting by the governor of Pennsylvania.

I would have your chief Men go thither, and they will hear Things for their good, and I hope such as will open their Eyes to see what is their true Interest.

Your Brethren the English have their Arms open to receive you. If you will not hearken to all the Messages which have been sent, and the several Warnings which have been given you, all your Friends will look on you as a headstrong deluded People, and you may perhaps repent of it when it will be too late.

Regard therefore the Words I and your Brethren of the Six Nations now speak to you, and let our Advice and Call be now heard and complied with.

We give you this Belt of Wampum to confirm all we have said.

A true Extract from the Records

Examined by me

PETER WRAXALL

Secy for In. Affs.

TO WILLIAM DENNY

*Df.*¹*Fort Johnson 21 July 1758.*

SIR

At the Camp at Lake George General Abercromby put into my hands your favor of the 27 June with a Copy of the Cherokee Speeches.

I returned hither 4 or five days ago and two days after the Cherokees arrived. and this day they made their Speech to the Six Nations.² I shall use my best Endeavours to promote a Harmony between them as well as all the Southern Indians in the British alliance, and the Indians of this District for as you justly observe a Union between our Indian allies to the Southward & Northward, is a desireable Event & worthy our Endeavours to compass.

I have a Belt & Speech ready to send thro the Six Nations to desire them, at your Request, to send some of their Chief Men, & the Sinecas in particular, to the Meeting you propose, and I intend to deliver this Belt & Speech to morrow to some Chief of the Sinecas who are now here to be by them made known thro the 5 Nations, who I make no doubt will attend you.

This day I dispatched Jos. Peppy a Delaware Indian, with a Belt of Wampum & a Speech in the name of the Six Nations & my own to the Delaware Indians living on the Ohio, a Copy of which I herewith transmit you. And in two days I shall send off Mr. Croghan & Mr. Montour to your Province to be aiding & assisting at your proposed Meeting. I have directed Mr. Croghan to correspond & confer with you as occasion may require.

¹ Destroyed by fire. The letter of which this is a draft was sold at auction at Libbie's, in Boston, February 15, 1910. It was signed by Johnson.

² *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:765-68; Q, 2:445-46.

I hope these Measures & the Negotiations at the proposed Congress, will put things upon such a footing, as may for the future secure the Frontiers of yr. Province from the Ravages & Devastations, which it hath, & is daily suffering. to obtain this happy Security I dont know any more effectual Measure can be purchased, than to open an advantageous Trade for the Indians and to have it put under such authoritative regulations as may convince the Indians how much it is for their Interest to maintain Peace & Friendship for the English & protect your Province from the Irruptions of the Enemy. Trade is undoubtedly the strongest cement to bind the Indians to our Alliance taking necessary precautions that Justice is done them by the Traders, giving them satisfaction with regard to their Land Complaints, and by a solemn public Treaty to agree upon clear & fixed Boundaries between our Settlements & their Hunting Grounds, so that each Party may know their own & be a mutual Protection to each other of their respective Possessions.

These Measures & such a Treaty if conducted with Prudence, Vigor & Sincerity, would in my humble opinion be the most effectual Means to restore Peace, Security & quiet Possession to your Frontiers, and if Copied by all the neighbouring Provinces which have suffered the Calamities of an Indian War or are exposed to the irruptions of these Savages, would be to them the most solid Foundation for their future Tranquility, and at the same time I apprehend it would be the most adviseable & successful Scheme, to strengthen, extend & secure the British Indian Interest, overthrow that of our Enemies & deprive them of their principal Means of distressing his Majestys Colonies & obstructing their Growth & Improvements, nay I am apt to beleive, such a System of Conduct, was it to become general in the Provinces more immediately concerned, would dislodge the French from their alarming Encroachments, with less Expence both of Blood & Treasure, more speedily & more effectually, than we shall perhaps be ever able to do by meer Force. As to Indians, I am affraid neither Speeches, Treaties or Expeditions, will bring them

heartily over to our Views & Interest, without our observing some such Plan of Conduct as I have above recommended.

I have received a Letter from the Gov^r. of New Jersey¹ whose Burlington Meeting seems to me, to be proper & prudent Step, and I have suggested to him that your proposed Congress might be perhaps a proper time & place for him in behalf of his Province finally to settle with the Indians in question about the Minisink Lands, for I greatly suspect those are the Indians chiefly concerned in the Irruptions upon his Province.

As to Tidiuscung, I can learn nothing more of him at present, than that he was a leading Man amongst some Tribes of Delaware Indians. I expect the Chief Seneca Sachem down at my House in a little time. if Tediuscung is a considerable Man he will know it. I suspect he is not the Consequential Person he hath pretended to be in your Indian proceedings, and that he is either a Tool made use of by some in your Province, or a vain forward Fellow who finds his advantage by imposing himself upon your Government, as a person of great Importance. however if he is not so, he hath been made too significant to be treated with contempt and I do not think it at all improbable but he may be one of the Instigators to the Murders committed on your Frontiers & those of the Neighbouring Provinces, in which the Senecas living at Chenopia² may give their Countenance & for ought I know their assistance for some of them are very much under the Influence of the French.

To The Honorable,
WILLIAM DENNY Esq^r.
Gov^r. of Pensilvania

INDORSED: St. William Johnson's Lett
to Gov^r. Denny 21 July 1758

¹ Not found.

² "Chenopia" in the copy; should be Chenossia or Chenussio.

FROM ROBERT SANDERS

A. L. S.¹*Albany July 27th, 1758.*

HONoured SIR:

I hope this will find you with all yours in Perfect health & yourself some what at your Ease after a Tedious Journey. I Embrace this opp^{ty} to send you here in your Acc^t Cur^t with me, whereby you will find I charg^d you for the freight of your goods Brought up & down by Cap^t Jacob Van Benthuyzen in the years of 1754: 1755 & 1756 which fell to my Share when we Settled & Broke off Slooping In Conjunction, the Acco^t of the particulars thereof I am not able to send you Now, as he has The Sloop Book with him to Collect some small Debts in at New York, But will send them you as soon as he comes up, which wont be Long I believe. By the Ballance of the Inclosed Acco^t is due to me from you £130:4:10 $\frac{1}{2}$ for w^{ch} sum I Debit your Acco^t on New, w^{ch} please order to be Examin'd & if free from Errors, please to order it to be Noted in Conformity with one in y^r Book. my Espouse Joins me in Kind Compliment to you and all yours, believe me to be, Sincerely Hon^{ble} Sir,

Y^r Real friend & am RespectfullyS^r Y^r most Hum Serv^t

ROBT SANDERS

¹ From *A Legacy of Historical Gleanings*, ed. Mrs Catharina V. R. Bonney, 1:22-23.

TO JOHN LOTTERIDGE

D. S.¹*Fort Johnson, Aug^t 1, 1758*Instructions for Captain John Lotteridge.²

You are to proceed with the Three Indians I have spoke to from hence with all possible Dispatch to the Oneida Carrying Place, where you are to show these your Instructions to Brig^r. General Stanwix.

In your way thro the Settlements and at the Oneida Station, you are to use your best Endeavours to keep the Indians who accompany you Sober; as much as you can from any Intercourse with other Indians & from every thing which may tend to retard your Journey, and as you are on your part to observe Secrecy with regard to your Destination to all Persons except General Stanwix, so you are to prevent as much as you can any other Indians from discovering the same.

When you have General Stanwix's permission to proceed, you are to set off for Oswego observing to keep a little on the North side of the Oneida Lake the Onondaga River so as to Strike Oswego near the Fort which stood on the East side — if you see nothing going on there, you are to return to the Oneida "Carrying Place by the Falls along the Banks on the North side of the Onondaga River & of the Oneida Lake."

You will exert yourself & animate the Indians with you to fulfill these Orders with regard to your Route, with the utmost punctuality and to be as diligent & exact in your observations & discoveries as Circumstances will admit of, and you will use the whole extent of your Influence over the Indians, to whom I have given the most solemn charge in my power, to aid & assist you

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² In 1755 John Lotteridge was second lieutenant of Captain Edmond Mathews's company of Albany militia in service at Lake George, *Second Annual Report of the State Historian*, p. 801.

in executing this piece of Service, without being deterred from the same, by any Difficulties or Apprehensions of Danger, less than such as will be justifiable upon the severest examination.

If General Stanwix should think proper to prescribe to you any particular Exceptions to your compleating this Service in the manner these Instructions describe & direct you therein, you are to obey the same.

On your return you will make a Report of your proceedings & Discoveries to General Stanwix & to no other Person whatsoever.

Given under

On back of sheet

By the Hon^{ble}. Sir William Johnson Baronet His Majestys sole agent & Superintendant of the Indians of the Six Nations their Allies & Dependents in the Northern District.

To John Lotteridge Esqr.

By Virtue of the power given me by His Majesty & reposing especial Trust & Confidence in your Loyalty Courage & Abilities. I do hereby appoint you the said John Lotteridge to act as Captain in the Indian Service under my Direction; and you are to discharge your Duty therein with Fidelity, resolution & Dillegence and to obey all such Orders as you may from time to time receive from me or other your Superior affairs¹ of all which this is to be to you a good & sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand & Seal of Office at Fort Johnson this
1st day of August — 1758.

¹ The word, "affairs" appears in the copy; it should be "officers."

SUMMARY OF INDIAN TRANSACTIONS ¹*August 3, 1758*

1756 — From the 19th of July to 20th August Sir W^m. Johnson was Constantly using Every Endeavour to send out Indian Party, to discover the intentions & designs of the French and keeping the Indians firm in their engagements with his Majestys Government

On the 20th of August Sir William being in Albany he met Lord Loudoun Intelligence was rec^d that Oswego was Attacked. Sir William Immediately set out for the German Flats, ordering one thousand Militia of the County of Albany to follow him and agreeable to Lord Loudouns division ² took post at the Flats where he soon assembled a Number of Indians and sent out different Parties, on the 9th of Sept^r. Sir William Received acc^{ts}. by several of his Party that Oswego had been taken and Burnt the whole Garrison being made prisoners

1757 — from this Time to 13th March 1757 Sir W^m. Johnson was holding Meetings with the Six Nations & doing all in his Power to Engage & keep them firm in the King's Interest, sending his eldest Capt. Tho^s. Butler to Onondaga Capt John Butler to Oneida & Tuscarora Capt Funday to the Senecas & other officers to different Indian Castles

About the above time intelligence was Received that the French had a design to attack the German Flats & settlements on the Mohawk River Sir W^m. Johnson sent orders to his Officers to meet him with the Indians at the German Flats with all possible dispatch.

on the Sunday the 20th of March Sir W^m. Johnson rec^d a Letter from Col Gage ³ & Letters from Colonels Glen Renszelaer ⁴ that the French had attacked Fort William Henry,

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² In the copy the word, "division," occurs here; "directions" no doubt was written.

³ Colonel afterward General Thomas Gage.

⁴ The conjunction does not appear in the copy.

on which he Issued his orders for the Militia on the Mohawk River to muster at his house as soon as possible and sent Mr. Stevens¹ the interpreter to the Mohawks who with such of the Six Nations as were then at Sir Williams agreed to march with him Immediately and on Monday morning Sir William marched with the Mohawks, Six Nations and Militia and on Thursday reached Fort Edward with the Indians and about 1200 Militia on the Next day he Received acc^{ts}. from Major Eager² that the French had retreated from Fort William Henry.

on Saturday the 27th of March Sir W^m Marched from fort Edward with the militia & Indians who he left after seeing them about 6 miles & Rode all night, having had acc^{ts}. that the Enemy were coming against the German Flats and arrived at Fort Johnson on Sunday Morning at 4 oclock when he met sundry of the Six Nations on the 30th Sir William set out for the German Flats to discharge the Militia of the Lower part of the County if there should not be sufficient cause for actioning them.

On the 8th of April Sir Williams Head Quarters was at Burnets Field where he issued his orders to his Indian officers to be Very Alert and keep out Parties &c. and on the 9th Cautioned them against alarming the Country without good Grounds & to send some Trusty Indians to Swegatchie to find out What the French were doing

From April 8th 1757 to June 1758 Sir William Johnson was Continually holding Treatys with the Six Nations and other Indians sending out Party, keeping his officers in the Indian Country and at such posts & Villages as would best enable them to keep them in the Kings Interest and prevent the French drawing them over to their Interest and was at infinite pains to settle disputes between them & the several provinces and among themselves —

1758 — on the 29th. of June 1758 Sir William set out from

¹Arent Stevens.

² Should be Eyre.

Fort Johnson to join Major General Abercrombie at Lake George and was followed by Parties of Indians amounting to 395 with Mr. Croghan Mr. Claus Mr. Montour & other Indian officers & 55 more Indians arrived the 6th of July the day the Battle was fought.

On the 8th. of July following after the unfortunate affair at Ticonderoga General Abercrombie desired Sir William Johnson to return the Indians thanks for the readiness to assist his Majestys troops, and though we had been unfortunate our Loss was not such but it would be soon repaired and he was sending a Respectable Force to fix a Strong Post at the Carrying Place on the Mohawk River.

On Sir Williams Return to Fort Johnson he had divers meetings with the Six Nations Cherokees & Catawbias in order to Establish a peace between them in doing Which it required much address & knowledge of Indians

1758 — On the 22nd of July Sir William Johnson informed the Six Nations that he had Letters from the General who Commanded the Troops going to the Carrying Place on the Mohawk River who was at Schonectady on his way, that Col Broadstreet was with him and Sir William Acquainted them that Col. Broadstreet was going on a Particular Service and desired that their Warriors would Make themselves Ready to go with him and that he should send Capt Thomas Butler with them to receive his orders and take Care of them

From the 22^d of July to the 1st of August Sir William was accomplishing and Confirming the peace between the Six Nations the Cherokees & Catawbias — which he happily settled.

on the 2^d of August Sir William informed the Indians he should set out the Next day he met General Stanwix and Col Broadstreet at the German Flats and desired their warriors to be ready to meet him.

INDORSED: Sundry Trans Actions of
Sir W^m. Johnson with
Indians before and at
the taking of Niagara 1759

JOHN STANWIX TO ABRAHAM MORTIER

The foregoing paper is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 96, by Brigadier General John Stanwix's order, dated Fort Johnson, August 2d, to Abraham Mortier to pay £500 to Johnson for the Indian service, particularly the employment of Indians in an expedition up the Mohawk river under Lieutenant Colonel Bradstreet. Destroyed by fire.

FROM LUCAS VAN VEGHTE

A. L. S.¹*Fort Hendrick 8th Augst 1758*

SIR

this Day Cap^t Smith of the York Regiment arrived here in his way to gennerall Stanwix with an Express, who says that Lewisburg is Certinly in our posession and that the fleet and army are Certainly gone to Quebeck and that generall abercrombie has orders to march Directly up again with his army and that admirall hack² has taken and Destroyed Sixteen Sail of the line of Batle Ships who ware Coming to Reinforce Lewisburgh this is all I Could Learn and indeed good News.

I am Sir

your most Humble Servant

LUCAS VANVEGHTE

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

ADDRESSED: To Sir William Johnson
Barinett
att
Brants

On back: Shoes for Captⁿ. Dowe and Du Camps
worsted thread of best colours for the
french stockings

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² On April 4 and 5, 1758, Sir Edward Hawke broke up a French squadron at Ile d' Aix which was about to sail for Cape Breton, conveying 3000 troops together with supplies.

TO DAVID VAN DER HEYDEN

*D.*¹*Albany 17 Aug^t. 1758*

As the Commanding officer of His Majestys Troops now here has acquainted me, that this Day he received Intelligence from Brig^r. Gen^l. Prevost² commanding at Fort Edward that a large Body of French & Indians has been discovered on their March this way, & directing the officers commanding at the several Posts and the Commanding officer here to call in all their out Parties & be upon their Guard. And whereas The Comm^g. officer here hath acquainted me there are not at present a sufficient number of His Majestys Troops in Garrison in this City to keep up the necessary Guards especially at night, You are hereby ordered & directed to mount a Guard of a Serg^t. & 10 Men of the Militia of this City in each of the Block Houses except the North & South Ones, giving them strict orders to keep a good lookout against any Surprize from the Enemy.

To MAJOR DAVID VAN DER HEYDEN

JAMES ABERCROMBY TO ABRAHAM MORTIER

The preceding order is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 96, by Major General James Abercromby's warrant, drawn at Lake George August 20th, on Abraham Mortier for the payment of £1000 to Johnson. Destroyed by fire.

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² James Prevost, colonel commandant of the second battalion of the 60th regiment.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.¹*Cadaracque 28th Aug^t. 1758*

SIR

I am to acquaint you the 25th Ins^t we landed without any oposition Within one Mile of the french Fort, incamped there; 26th Eairley in the morning Landed our Cannon. &c: Drew them Near the Fort upon which we fired & they at us, which lasted the whole day & not one of our people hurt. in the night we Got two intrenchm^{ts} Made within 200 yards of the Enemys Fort. the Enemy fired very briskly with Cannon & Small arms at us all this night little fire from us. onely once in awhile a bumb. 27th our Cannon &c played at the Fort very briskly which the Mons^{rs} finding to hot Came out to Capitulate & about twelve oClock we took possession. Spent the Remainder of the day in destroying the Fort. Shiping &c.: the latter of which were nine. not one Escaped; in the Eveing the French being about 150 men went of to Canaday according To agreem^t: but are To return the like number of our prisoners. Among whom is to be Coll. Schuyler. its uncrediable the quantity of Stores we found here.²

We have a brig and a Scooner which we keep To Carry plunder To oswego in and in the whole of the action we have not lost a man & onely two or three Slightly wounded one of the Enemy had his thigh Shot of whom Red head Scalped, they lost Some by the bursting their Cannon & Some few wounded by our Shott. we are making rady To Set of this day but the wind

¹ Destroyed by fire.

² In the State Library is a copy of a diary of Charles Clinton, in which the siege and the fort are descirbed.

is pretty hard ahead this will Go by Some onondagas whom
Coll. Bradstreet Sends Express

My Broth^r. Sends his Complements to you

and I am

Sir

with all respect your most

obed^t Humble Ser^{tt}

THO^s. BUTLER

P. S.

Youl pleas let my
Frinds know we are well.

the Enemy have not one
vesel left in
this Lake

FROM WILLIAM DENNY

L. S.¹

Philadelphia 30th August 1758.

SIR

I have the Honour of yours of the 21st: July. Mr. Croghan, and soon after him Mr. Montour, came to Easton, and after paying me separately a short Visit, they returned there, in order to receive the Indians properly as they should arrive.

Yesterday I received a Letter from Mr. Croghan, acquainting me, that about Twenty Indian Messengers, who left Wyomink at different Times, informed him, that the upper Nations were gathering there, in order to proceed to hold a Treaty in this Province.

From the Numbers of Indians of Consequence, who are expected as Deputies of their several Nations and Tribes, there is a fair Prospect of uniting the Indians in our Favour, settling all Disputes, and establishing a lasting Peace.

¹ Destroyed by fire.

General Forbes, who has been instrumental in bringing about this Meeting of Indians, and is very anxious for the Success of it, now that he is informed it is likely to be a very large one, and to consist of the most considerable Indian Chiefs, presses me, in the strongest Terms, to desire your Presence and Assistance at the Treaty, and to request the same from the Governors of New York, Jersey, Maryland and Virginia, assuring himself, that, if you and they can be got to concur in it, our Indian Matters will soon take a very different and favourable Turn: and at the General's Instance, as well as that it would give me a very sensible Pleasure to have the Honour of your Company, I desire the favour of your Presence at these Conferences. The Indian Messengers say their Countrymen will be at Easton the middle of the next Month.

I am sensible of the Shortness of the Notice, but could not give it sooner, for want of knowing the Numbers of the different Nations, and the Time of their Assembling.

It is unnecessary for me to be more particular in pointing out the great Advantage that may attend so general and important an Alliance, for the Protection of the Colonies, and annoying His Majesty's Enemies.

I am Sir

Your most obedient

humble servant

WILLIAM DENNY

Invitations are sent to the Governors of New York New Jersey Maryland and Virginia

P. S. General Forbes wrote to me the 26th that he had been ill, but was so well recovered as to propose to join the Army at the Camp at Rays Town. 1500 of the Provincials are sent forward to compleat the new Road on the other Side Laurel Hill, which is a shorter Cut to Fort Duquesne than Mr. Braddock's

Road by at least Sixty Miles,¹ and falls on the Ohio above the French Fort.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^t:

INDORSED: Gov^r. Dennys Letter Philadelphia 30 Aug^t 1758.

WILLIAM DENNY TO JAMES DE LANCEY

The preceding letter is followed in the Johnson Calendar, p. 96, by copy of a letter of the 30th from Governor Denny, at Philadelphia, to Lieutenant Governor DeLancey, inviting him to attend the conference at Easton. Destroyed by fire.

TO JELLES FONDA

D. S.²

Fort Johnson, September 1, 1758

Captⁿ. Jellis Fondas Instructions on his going to the Oneida Carrying place.

SIR:

As nothing can more effectually rivett those Indians in our Interest who (from our great, & many Disappointments) are of late in a wavering Disposition or recover from the French, & attach to his Majestys Interest, the Severall Nations around Us, than a fair, & beneficial Commerce at a proper place, or places.

And as it is Major Gen^l. Abercrombies pleasure that a Trade for the Present Should be carried on with those Indians in our Alliance, at y^e. gréat Carrying place near Oneida, & Traders for that purpose being allowed to repair thither haveing proper papers. You are therefore to Sett off to Morrow for Said Place,

¹ In a letter written August 2d at Fort Cumberland to Colonel Bouquet, Washington calculated the distance from Carlisle to Fort Duquesne by way of Raystown (now Bedford) at 193 miles and the distance from Carlisle to Fort Duquesne by way of Fort Cumberland (Braddock's road) at 212 miles.—Jared Sparks, *Writings of George Washington*, 2:304.

² Destroyed by fire.

& when there to See that Justice be done to such Indians as come to, and are entitled to trade there.

You will See their Skins fairly weighed & be present while tradeing, & suffer no Injustice of any kind to be done them. this Usage & Care taken of them, will spread far & Near, & must be a means of drawing the most distant Nations to our Interest, particularly so, when Trade is Settled in a more extensive manner, & under proper Regulations, which you may let them know will be the case if they behave worthy of it.

You are to let those who trade there know, that if any of them offer to use an Indian Ill or defraud them in trade you will immediately report it to General Stanwix & Me, & I dare say He will prevent Such People tradeing there any more, while he is there. You will endeavour to get all the Intelligence you can of the Enemys Designs, & Motions, & Send me the earliest notice thereof, at the Same time you are to acquaint the Gener^l. or Comm^{dg} Officer there of whatever may concern the Safety of the Posts & Troops under his Command.

Whatever News you may learn from y^e. westward or any other Quarter you will keep an exact Journal of and Send it me from time to time.

You are to keep Copies of any Material conferences which may pass, or Messages which there may be occasion to Send to any of the Nations.

Given under my Hand

at Fort Johnson the 1st 7^{br}. 1758

W. J.

FROM JAMES DE LANCEY

L. S.¹*New York 3^d September 1758*

SIR

Last night by the Post I received a letter from governor Denny, a copy of which I inclose, I see by the Postscript that you are desired to assist in person at this meeting. This letter giving me the first account of this matter and the notice being so short, that I cannot call the Assembly together to make provision for the necessary expence, I shall decline going thither. I desire you will be pleased to inform me whether deputys are sent from the six nations or what you know of this affair and your opinion of it and whether you intend to be there; for as his Majesty has placed the Management of Indian affairs in your hands I should not suppose these measures are taken without your participation

I am

Sir

Your most obedient humble
servant

JAMES DELANCEY

The Honorable

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

FROM HENRY I. WENDELL

A. L. S.¹*Great Carrying Place Aug^t. [Sep^t] 4th: 1758.*

DEAR SIR

I have the Pleasure to Acquaint you that Coll^o. Bradstreet has taken Caderochque he has taken Sixty Cannon Destroyed Vast Quantities of Provisions and War Like Implements has

¹ Destroyed by fire.

burnt Seaven Vessels, brought Two at Oswego Vastly Rich Loaded with furs and Indian Goods, the Vessels where arrived at Oswego before the Express came away, and Coll^o. Bradstreet with the Troops where to be there In Two Days They Compute that the french have Sustained the Loss of Seaven hundred Thousand Pound Sterling by Caderochque being In our Possission and Destroy^d. Together all the Stores Vessels &c The Engagement was Short The french had 120 men We have Coll^o. Cursar¹ & Lieut^t. Brown wounded and Seaventeen Private men, not one killed The french had Seaventeen men killed They are Transported to Canada and are to Return Men for men and Coll^o. Schuyler An Easy Conquest & they Surrendered after they had Thrown five Shells In the Fort the Vessels where Just arrived at Caderonechque before our People Came there, from New Yagara and the Indian Goods Just from Canada So it was a Verry Lucky Affair Our fort and buildings go on Verry well here, I should be glad to hear from you and what news.

I am

With Esteem

Dear Sir:

Your most humble Ser^t

HENRY I. WENDELL

To Sir

W^m. JOHNSON, bar^t.

¹ Evidently intended for Lieutenant Colonel Isaac Corsa who took part in the expedition against Fort Frontenac.

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

*Df.*¹*Fort Johnson 10 Sep^r. 1758.*

SIR

I am favoured with yours of the 3 Inst inclosing a Copy of Mr. Dennys Letter to you. I have one of the same purport from him.

Gen. Forbes & Gov^r. Denny proposed a Meeting this Summer of some Susquahannah Indians, and about the time I was gathering Indians this way to join Gen. Abercromby, they sent Belts of Wampum thro the 6 Nations to solicit their attendance, having also dispatched Belts up the Susquahanna River. I sent Belts forbidding the Indians to go to the Pensilvania Meeting & calling upon them to attend me in order to join His Majestys Army this way. After my return from Tionderogo, Gen. Forbes & Gov^r. Denny made warm Applications to Gen. Abercromby that I might send some Person to assist at their still proposed Meeting & that I would prevail on Delegates from the 6 Nations to Attend. I sent Mr Croghan & Mr. Montour the Interpr^r. & also sent a Belt & Speech thro the 6 Nations desiring they would now send their Representatives to this Meeting. there are accordingly some gone from each Nation. What the effects of this meeting will be, I cannot take upon me to say, but it seems as if it would be a considerable One.

As to my Attendance I have referred my self to General Abercromby & by whom only I shall be directed as to my Attendance there or remaining in this Quarter.

I am Sir

Your most Obed^t.

Humble Servant

To The Hon^{ble}. JAMES DE LANCEY Esq^r.

INDORSED: Sir Williams Letter to Gov^r. DeLancey 10 Sep^r.
1758

¹ Destroyed by fire.

APPENDIX

FROM AN UNKNOWN PERSON

Fragment

[*Herkimers, April 30, 1758.*¹]

alarmed by an [] abt a quarter of a Mile
from [] of the Garrison² Enemy appearing
[] Garrison. Thereupon Lt. Hare was d []
with his Rangers to cover the Retreat of [] Inhabi-
tants to the Fort, he had the Luck to [] and scalp an
Indian, it is concluded abt. 10 [] poor inhabitants are
killed and carried off [] wounded Women are brought
into the Fort It is now [9] and 10 at Night, and the Enemy
has just set Fire to a house abt. a Mile from the Fort, and we
speedily expect to see the surrounding Neighbourhood in a Blaze.
The Inhabitants who have taken Refuge in the Fort, are in the
utmost Consternation, and have determined to abandon the River
immediately, being in general of Opinion, that the Force at present
appointed to defend this part of the Country

¹ Date supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

² Evidently underscored for omission and possibly showing the manuscript to be a copy of an original prepared by or for Captain Nicholas Herkimer, who was the commandant of the fort at the time. An account of the massacre appears in Benton, *History of Herkimer County*, p. 58, which is based on a letter appearing in the *New York Mercury*, May 22, 1758. See *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 1:522.

LIST OF GOODS TO BE SENT FROM LONDON ¹

A Specification of the Quality and Quantity of Goods necessary to be sent from London for the Northern Indian department.

- 20, p^{ss}. of blue narrow Cord Strowds
- 10, d^o. of Black d^o.
- 5, d^o. of Aurora, or Crimson d^o.
- 5, d^o. of common Red d^o.
- 200, Rolls of different Colours Gartering
- 200, p^s. Gimps Suitable to the Strouds
- 300, Blankets made to sample every Way
- 300, d^o. Large enough for Women
- 400, d^o. for men something Larger,
 - 6, p^{ss}. of deep purple Ratteen
 - 6, p^s. of White or uncolour'd d^o.
 - 6, d^o. of Walsh Cottons
- 200, Mens Ruffled Shirts without Buttons
- 200, d^o. plain
- 100, d^o. Smaller size and plain
- 100, d^o. for little Boys
- 20, ll of light Colour'd Thread
 - 6, p^s. of Yellow half thicks
 - 4, d^o. of Blue d^o.
- 30, p^s. Strip'd Callimincoes, lively Colours
- 20, p^s. of Callicoes also Lively Colours
- 20, p^s. embors'd Serges d^o.
- 10, p^s. of Yard wide Cheeks Red Stripes
 - 40. p^s. of single Ribbands Viz^t. 10. deep Red, 10. deep blue, 10. deep Green, & 10. d^o. Yellow,

¹ In Library of Congress. Plainly prepared by Johnson in or about November 1756.

- 30, dozⁿ. of Womens Yarn Hose Clock^t. & diff^t. Colours.
 20, d^o. of Boys d^o. d^o.
 20, d^o. of Childrens d^o. d^o.
 20, d^o. Smallest Childrens Hose.
 10, d^o. of Womens Scarlet blue and Green Worsted
 Hose with Clocks,
 100, Castor Hatts laced with a broad cheap Lace
 50, d^o. with a better Lace
 2, dozⁿ. of small Jacks or Colours
 100, Coats of blue Cloath Red Cuffs &c^a. Laced
 100, Cheap Green Waste Coats with white Mett^l. Buttons
 400, Neat Fowling pieces Barrels 4 Feet Long Sub-
 stantial Stocks to have some distinguishing
 mark on the Barrel and Lock of each,
 about 20/ price,
 400, d^o. a better kind distinguish'd as above.
 200, d^o. 3 Feet Barrell for Boys, d^o. Wilson Maker
 100, p^r. of middling Pistols with Ramrods
 1000, Indian Cutlashes strong & of the Cymiter kind
 500, Pipe Hatchets neat & Strong without Handles
 50, dozⁿ. of Long Fish Knives with Box Handles and
 Sharp points
 50, d^o. of Buckhorn Clasp Knives
 20, dozⁿ. of Penknives Sorted
 20, dozⁿ. of Womens Siczars,
 20, Gro: of Indian Awl Blades,
 50, ll of Brass wire Sorted,
 50, Brass Gorgets Gilt, with the Kings Arms
 150, Hair Cocades,
 50, Gro. of the smallest brass dutch Jews Harps
 50, dozⁿ. Buckling Combs,
 10, M of Needles Sorted
 30, Gro. of Hawks Bells different Sizes
 4, d^o. of Common Razors,
 20, dozⁿ. of Looking Glasses at 8/

- 20, d°. of . . . d°. at 10/
 100, Gro: of Bristol pipes
 50, ll of small white Beeds
 500, Common Steel Tongs for Striking Fire
 4, M^{wt}. of Good Gun powder, half in whole, &
 half in $\frac{1}{2}$ Barrells
 8, Tons of Leaden Barrs of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ll^t.¹ Each
 2, M. of Goose Shott.
 2, d°. of duck Shott
 10, M. of Good Flints
 500, w^t. of Vermillion in Casks well packd
 20, ll of Verdegreece in Lump
 100, dozⁿ. of Bullet Molds for the before Mention'd Arms.
- INDORSED: List of Goods, to be sent
 from London, for the
 Northern Indians
 in the E. of Loudoun's Letter
 of Nov^r. 22^d. 1756.
 5

¹ So in the copy; probably intended for ll.

Date Due

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